

PEACE NEWS

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THREEPENCE

Peace through bombing? ASIA PROTESTS

PRESS comment in Asia has grown increasingly critical of American and United Nations policy.

Summing up recent Indian editorials, India News says "The general opinion is that the U.S. policy is more and more to become purely negative and based on strict security considerations."

From Burma comes a long editorial in The Nation (Rangoon, Aug. 27), entitled Burma and Korea, from which the following is an extract:

In the new session of our Burma Parliament opening on Monday (Aug. 28) our legislators, we hope, will give serious consideration to the conflict in Korea which has brought to the forefront again the question whether bombs will bring peace.

Hardly five years have passed since the end of the global war, and Korea is again the scene of pattern bombing and carpet bombing on a scale that reminds us of the flight over our skies of mass formations of B 26s, dropping deadly bombs which neither we nor the Japanese who occupied our land were able to ward off.

Having been witness to mass slaughter in the name of liberation and freedom, we can easily imagine the fate of the people of Korea, on whose heads are dropped death-dealers from the sky, and whose weary footpaths are strewn with the sharp spikes of Communist ideology that gives no quarter to free movement.

That aggression has been committed by North Korea has been admitted, though Jacob Malik may point to the clock, and say that the Americans began the aggression first.

That the victims of the aggression need protection is undeniable, but if that protection should come in the form of the peace of the grave, the question naturally arises whether there is no other way to peace except through such agents of death as bombs and guns.

While the western world, (or in other words, the materially advanced and over-privileged peoples of the world) seem to pin their faith in the efficacy of gunpowder and A and H bombs, forgetting the injunctions of the Christian doctrine which they profess to follow, the people of our part of the world still retain as a living faith the teachings of Lord Buddha which we regard as the panacea for all ills, national and international.

"Our emphasis: human values"

Our approach to modern tensions is, therefore, conditioned by our inherited culture which lays emphasis on human values and takes into account the inherent good qualities of the human being.

While we are hankering for peace, and are putting forth our best efforts in that direction, sparks and flames from far-off Russia and America seem to be coming thick and fast into our midst which seriously threaten to set our house in flames.

One way, and in our opinion the right way, to avoid the engulfment of our homes and hearths in an inferno of fire, is to maintain a correct perspective of world events and not allow our judgment to be warped as a result of the pouring in of propaganda.

We have, like India, accepted the Security Council's resolution declaring North Korea as the aggressor. But we have to be careful lest we over-reach ourselves as the Korean issue has been complicated by President Truman's announcement which has linked up in one and the same statement the defence of Korea which guarantees the freedom of Formosa and French Indo-China.

This has resulted in the lumping together of different issues with dangerous portents and wide repercussions. In our view Korea is one thing, and Formosa and French Indo-China are different problems.

Meanwhile, if world peace is to be maintained, it can only be done by the collective effort of as many millions of people as possible, through their representatives assembled round the conference table of the United Nations.

China as a country with a population of nearly a quarter of the world, has been refused entry, and efforts made to rectify this error are only helping to create suspicions about the true intentions of those who oppose moves for this purpose.

The sooner this error is rectified, the sooner we feel a solution can be found limiting the area of conflict and for finding the basis for maintaining world peace.

"NO REAL SOUL TO THIS WAR" Gloom and despondency in the Press

THE "Crusade against the Powers of Darkness" is not going well. Typical of the pessimistic attitude of the Press, as regards both the conduct of it and the spirit of the soldiers, was the front page lead story of the current Sunday Times. At the same time The Observer complains that the economic problems of the East, without consideration of which any struggle against Communism will be futile, are being ignored.

These candid criticisms give further point to our questions: What is the war about, and for what ultimate purpose is the slaughter of conscripted soldiers and innocent civilians to continue?

The front-page article of the Sunday Times, Sept. 10, was headed, "U.S. to propose formation of a European army with German force included."

The irony of this headline, and its significance as an omen, are apparently unnoticed.

Yet, if any indication were needed of the pre-destined failure of this and all wars to achieve their professed aims, there could be none more obvious than this: that German militarism, to suppress which the bloodiest war in history has just been fought, is already to be revived to help us fight the next enemy.

Following this was a report by the Sunday Times Korean correspondent, Richard Hughes.

Mr. Hughes' Korea dispatch opens with the statement that at the next (last Tuesday's) meeting of the Foreign Ministers Mr. Acheson would propose the formation of a European army which would include German troops.

No German military staff is proposed, but the army would be commanded by German officers subordinate to superior European officers. German military production will at present be confined mainly to small arms, lorries, etc. It should be noted, however (vide general press), that the disbanding of German industry is to cease.

Wanted - a miracle

The article asserts that there can be no swift victory in Korea without heavy UN reinforcements, which needs at least eight fresh divisions—lacking a "military miracle of a Wellsian secret weapon."

In spite of complete UN mastery in the air, we read, American and Australian Air Forces "can do everything to the enemy but stop him." The tenacity and endurance of the Communist troops, under ruthless, and unopposed air attack, "have been astonishing."

But this aerial ascendancy and technical superiority will not, it is admitted, win the

war by themselves. Alone they can only bring a stalemate, and if the Communists fail in complete occupation of the South, they will, says the article, "fight stubbornly for that as their next best alternative."

World War: Who would launch it?

A protracted war, however, "might well involve Red China," and the danger there is that "if the Chinese armies on the Korean border begin to march," the UN forces might have to quit Korea.

And, comments the writer, to that "the only apparent alternative would be to launch a third world war."

(On which it may well be asked—By whose decision would it be launched? The United Nations?—Ed. PN).

The Communists, the article continues, have lost many officers and crack troops and are short of food, "but they have not lost the will to fight, and are in no way short of courage."

Of the four South Korean divisions included in the UN army, one division, it is stated, "seems to have mysteriously disappeared."

Commenting on the difficulties of "the jeep-conscious Americans," and, in spite of their bravery, their reluctance to leave the roads and "winkle" the Communists out of the mountain ridges, the writer adds:

"Nor is there any real soul to this war. No profound sympathy or even warm liking exists between Americans and South Koreans."

British and American soldiers, he adds, "notoriously have little abstract opinion or articulate comment on why they are fighting, but they can usually detect in any war a menace to their country or their home."

In this case, however, "as they profanely insist, they can perceive nothing of that sort in this war."

(Surely a sad comment on the efficacy of Press, platform and pulpit.—Ed. PN).

Failing idealism, there's always hatred

Hatred for the enemy, however, is now developing, says the writer, "largely because of his atrocities." And the resentment which the UN soldiers felt at the

TWO MINDS WITH BUT A SINGLE THOUGHT

TRUMAN: We are arming only for defence against aggression. Even though Communist imperialism does not believe in peace, it can be discouraged from new aggression if we are strong, determined and united.

STALIN: We stand for peace. But we are not afraid of threats and have a ready answer for war-mongers—blow for blow.

These lads ought to get together

sight of "able-bodied Korean youths sitting passively by the road watching the white man moving forward to 'defend' them," has disappeared with Singman Rhee's conscription orders.

Further desires for the co-operation of the hated ex-enemy are then noted in the case of the South Korean Chief of Staff, Chung Li Kwon, who was trained by the Japanese and the Americans.

As a "good Korean," says the writer, Chung "hates the Japanese," but as a "military realist he privately shares the opinion of many American officers that five Japanese divisions—recruited as 'volunteers'—would be a most effective reinforcement. . . ."

Armed intervention a mistake?

The article concluded with the following significant opinion regarding the diplomatic situation:

"There is strong and growing American opinion in Tokyo that armed intervention in Korea was a mistake and has played into Stalin's hands."

He says it is claimed that "a precedent has been set for remote diversionary attacks on weak points in the democratic front by Soviet-armed puppets who will seek to bleed the Americans while the Russians build up an atomic stockpile."

And the complaint is, he says, that "the United States and the United Nations are now committed to fight piecemeal where and when the Soviet dictates."

The answer given to that "defeatist reaction," he adds, is that the Korean war has, momentarily at least, closed the ranks of the UN, and contained what might have been a major Soviet armed challenge. But without further reinforcements, and "more realistic co-operation between Britain and USA," the sacrifice of their soldiers "will have been in vain."

THE "DEFENCE" DEBATE

Extracts from the speeches made in the Debate which opened in Parliament as Peace News went to press will appear next week.

"DRAKE'S PRAYER" GOES WEST

"DRAKE'S PRAYER" is contained in a book called "Daily Prayer," compiled during the war by the Dean of York and Canon Briggs. It was broadcast over the BBC by an eminent Scottish divine, and placarded all over London under a picture of Drake with the title: "Our Heritage."

The War Savings organisers printed a Christmas card with a ship in full sail and "Drake's Prayer," and it was ascribed to him in a broadcast by Field-Marshal Montgomery. The prayer reads:

"O Lord God, when Thou gavest to Thy servants to endeavour any great matter, grant us to know that it is not the beginning, but the continuing of the same until the end, until it be thoroughly finished, which yieldeth the true glory; through Him, who, for the finishing of Thy work laid down His life, our Redeemer, Jesus Christ."

And how did the story arise? The Western Morning News, Aug. 31, provides the answer.

In the course of routine dispatches to the Elizabethan Admiralty, giving news of one of his expeditions, Drake said: "There must be a beginning of a great matter, but the continuing unto the end until it be thoroughly finished yields the true glory."

A truism in the style of his times; but one which, with embellishment, is remembered as a prayer, and not as the officialese of an early Civil Servant.



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Suicide or Faith?

By John Friend

IN a broadcast talk which will tend to allay some of the deep misgivings shared by many in this country on some trends of United States opinion and policy, Mr. Dean Acheson, the United States Secretary of State, has condemned talk of "a preventive war"—the "let-'em-have-it-now" line of argument which seems to have influential support in America. It is "idiocy of the worst sort to talk in such terms," he has said, and one can be glad that he has spoken so plainly.

Mr. Acheson's statesmanlike course, which seeks in every possible way to circumscribe the dangers of the Korean situation, can be admired by all who desire peace, including those who, as pacifists, differ profoundly from Mr. Acheson in other respects.



A pacifist holds that what Mr. Acheson has said about a certain kind of war talk applies to all such talk, and that "preventive war," and such a military operation as is now being conducted by the United Nations in Korea, are to be condemned in the same breath—along with the wicked act of aggression by Northern Korea which started, and which now prolongs, the war.

By making war in any circumstances we "tend to bring on the very thing we are trying to prevent" (to use some words of Mr. Acheson's). The United Nations ideal can no more be furthered by military action than can Christianity.

In saying this we are separating ourselves from a majority of those in the world today whose political opinions are formed and vocal. We watch this week the British Houses of Parliament proceeding to commit the nation to a course of accelerated rearmament and an extension of conscription which not only we pacifists, but many of Parliament's non-pacifist members, know to be financially ruinous and morally wrong. Yet, in the present state of opinion among those who help to determine public policy, evil and suicidal courses look like being the only ones assured of general acceptance.

Salvation lies, as we believe, in the entire abandonment of arms, in the acceleration of existing movements for world unity, and in the replacement of all self-regarding policies by a new policy of boldest altruism for the good of the whole world.

Mr. Victor Gollancz's proposal, in a letter to *The Times*, of a Peace Ministry, "ceaselessly searching for ways of 'getting through' to the Russian and satellite peoples, with a view to explaining, not that we are righteous and their Government wicked, but that we wish them well and are anxious to get together with them for the improvement of life everywhere," sketches the sort of interim measure which, pending the ultimate disappearance of national sovereignty, pacifists desire.



But why has this positive pacifist way of adventure never been convincingly presented, in the grand and comprehensive terms which it deserves, to the world?

While Parliament, a body of peace-desiring men, proceeds to pursue utterly discredited courses, every Christian, and not only every pacifist, knows in his heart that God can propound to us all a quite other solution which would save the world. Yet it lies out of immediate reach. Why?

Because, first of all, of the truth propounded by Shelley: "The wise want love, and those who love want wisdom"; and because of the spiritual weakness of pacifists, who have not dared enough in their own cause. And secondly, because of the inertia of human nature, clinging to familiar roads even long after they are known to lead nowhere, or to the abyss.

But finally, it is because salvation can come only through the rebirth of faith. God can work in the world when there are men who will risk everything for the belief that He exists and can guide and empower them. Faith is the gap now yawning between the practical men of our time and the attainment of world peace. Without faith pacifism and altruism are foolishness; with faith they are seen to be elements in the strange common sense of God.

AN hour ago, as I was beginning to collect my notes for this commentary, the evening papers brought the news that the first British soldier killed in action in Korea, a 19-year-old private in the Middlesex Regiment, had been buried with full military honours. If he had wanted to get married, he would have needed parental consent. If he had presented himself at a polling booth during an election, he would have been told that he was too young to vote.

Others, in this paper and elsewhere, will probably give adequate expression to the shocked indignation with which this fills them. Concerned here with the political aspect of world happenings, I can only point out that millions who are not pacifists will agree with us in seeing something revolting in a world order under which such things can exist side by side.

Taxation without representation was condemned long ago as a flagrant injustice though plenty of it still exists in many ways and many places for which we are ultimately responsible—but even that is a mere bagatelle in comparison with the act of compelling youngsters to fight and die in execution of policies with the shaping of which they have nothing to do.

Too stupid for survival?

ARE we too docile under the leadership of utter incompetents, or is it simply that all of us, leaders and led alike, are too crassly stupid for the conduct of our affairs—and even for survival? My personal feeling, I think, would be to say "Yes" in answer to both questions.

The last two or three weeks present a mixed bag of facts. The main one, unfortunately, is bad. Up to about the middle of August most observers of world affairs were of opinion that the international situation was unsteadily, but fairly evenly, balanced between peace and war. Today many of them think that it looks more like a pair of scales tilting two-thirds of the way down on the side of war.

The balance of hope and fatalism

KINGSLEY MARTIN'S latest survey, appearing in *Forward* on account of the dispute in the London printing industry,

CHRISTIANITY AND WORLD GOVERNMENT

A GREAT modern Christian was asked by a heckler at an open-air meeting: "Christianity! What's the good of Christianity? We've had it for 2,000 years and it hasn't got rid of war yet!"

The wise reply was: "Soap, what's the good of soap? We've had it for 2,000 years and it hasn't got your face clean yet, my friend, because you don't give it a chance!"

Recently Mr. Churchill declared at a meeting of a distinguished society, "There is no hope for the world unless we get some kind of world government." At the same time Mr. Clement Davies proclaimed in the House that for many years he had desired a "world government." As long ago as 1945 Mr. Bevin made a similar statement.

We are apt to regard such utterances, and the resultant endeavours for the reform of the United Nations, as daringly progressive; but this conception of world government is one of the oldest in the whole range of human thinking.

Writing about the year 390 AD, for instance, the Latin poet Prudentius said this: "Peoples discordant in speech, kingdoms diverse in culture, God has willed to unite. God would submit them to one rule. God would have them in harmonious union, subjected to one civilising sway, that love of religion may hold the hearts of all mankind together. There is no union fit for Christ unless one mind unite all the nations together."

More than a thousand years before Prudentius, however, the great idea of one Divine world government had emerged. Genesis records Abraham as affirming that the Judge of all the earth, the King of the whole world, would most certainly do justice. Later on, the great Jewish Prophets also saw God as the One World-Ruler.

Jesus Christ came, as St. Mark tells us, "proclaiming the good news that the Kingdom of God is at hand." 'Kingdom' is not a good translation for the original term; it is too territorial and political. 'Rule' or 'Sovereignty' is better. Thus the great phrase means 'God's World Government shall be swiftly established.'



When He was arraigned before Pilate, Jesus pointed out to His judge, whom He Himself was in reality judging, that "this world's sovereignties"—national sovereignty as it was then and still is—meant the war-making power. In turning from national sovereignty to God's one world sovereignty Jesus had turned from war to warlessness. It is worth noting that as long ago as 1861, President Lincoln told the Southern States, "You can't have both sovereignty and peace."

'All through Jesus' lifetime, guerilla fighting was blazing up here and there in Galilee and Judaea. This was the issue behind the episode when the excited crowds tried to compel Jesus "to become a King," that is, to declare instant insurrection against Rome under His own sovereign leadership.

Commentary

By ROY SHERWOOD

makes most of all the favourable factors, as indeed it is our own duty to do. But in conclusion with the sentence:

"The odds today, certainly in favour of general war and catastrophe, may still change in our favour if enough of us refuse to be fatalistic and go on working with all our might for peace."

Alistair Cooke's report from New York in the *Manchester Guardian Weekly* can leave nobody in doubt that the American Secretary for Defence, Mr. Louis Johnson, is a believer in the preventive war, under the most insane of all ridiculous slogans ever invented: "The War To Keep The Peace." And the intricacies of the American constitution, to which Alistair Cooke also refers, sometimes render it easier for a Minister serving under the President (or, for that matter, for any high-ranking USA soldier) to propagate opinions contradictory to the Government's policy than it is for the President to avoid having to adopt a policy which may have been created and popularised by a technician's irresponsible outpourings.

As for the continental papers, it is hard to find one among them that still maintains an optimistic attitude about the possibility of averting the third world war.

Encouraging factors

LET us turn to our encouraging factors. There are several, each one of some importance in itself. But their greatest significance lies in the fact that they contradict the steadily growing belief in our own inability to do anything against the drift into war.

First on the list is the fact that the risk of an immediate clash between China and America over Formosa has been so greatly lessened as almost to have been removed. The MacArthur statement, inadvertently published, has been withdrawn, and President Truman's own declarations have been toned down. The United States are now willing to "support and assist the study of the Formosan question" if the Security Council wants to take it in hand. And, since the Council can hardly disregard the wartime decision that Formosa rightly belonged to China, and can, furthermore, barely insist upon the question being discussed without the attendance of a Mao Tse-tung representative, it seems reasonable to see in all this the first signs of the

admission of Communist China to the United Nations.

UN needs an "Opposition"

FOR that, everybody should hope and work, for there is even more at stake than the settlement of the Formosan difficulty.

It will be all to the good that Russia should have friends and supporters in the United Nations, to strengthen her confidence in the organisation and to reduce the danger of its becoming a mere recording machine of anti-Soviet decisions. In external as well as in internal affairs, an "opposition" strong enough to prevent self-complacency among the majority is always to be desired.

Acheson welcomes Indian proposal

THE second factor on which we may congratulate ourselves is Secretary of State Dean Acheson's recent declaration on the subject of India's proposals with regard to the Korean war. When that proposal was first made it was practically cold-shouldered. But in a recent Press conference Mr. Acheson answered a journalist's question on the subject with these words:

"The United States welcome the initiative of the Indian Government in its proposal to let six non-permanent members of the Security Council work out a settlement for Korea."

There must be no misunderstanding here. The declaration does not mean that the requirement of a North Korean withdrawal to the 38th Parallel has been withdrawn. It does mean however that eyes, ears and minds have been opened to the need of discussions and negotiations in which both North and South Koreans will be able to have their say, with a view to the eventual re-union of a country which ought never to have been split up into two parts, to suit the wartime Allies' convenience.

China-America situation improved

THE third of our encouraging factors also concerns China and America. If the people who stand for the policy of a preventive war had gained the day, we might now be already at war because the Americans would have given a flat rejection to Communist China's complaint that USA planes had bombed Manchurian territory beyond the border of North Korea. But

(Continued on back page)

Extracts from a sermon delivered over the BBC's Home Service on Sept. 3.

By JOHN S. HOYLAND

a member of the Peace Pledge Union and the Crusade for World Government and a frequent contributor to *Peace News*.

lee and Judaea. This was the issue behind the episode when the excited crowds tried to compel Jesus "to become a King," that is, to declare instant insurrection against Rome under His own sovereign leadership.

When he refused on one occasion to take such a step, the young men with whom He had been brought up and who knew His inborn powers of leadership, were so disappointed that they tried to murder Him. At the end, when He entered Jerusalem in lowly triumph, the guerillas—Zealots—were their name then—thought that at last He was about to strike in war against Rome.

In the affair of the Tribute-money they tried to drag Him over the line, again to be disappointed, and finally to desert Him and to howl for His death as a Leader who would not lead in the only way they understood leadership, the assertion of war-making national sovereignty.



When, after His Resurrection, the Risen Master said to His followers: "As my Father has sent me, so send I you," it was to the saving of the world by the founding of the one world Sovereignty of God that He sent them.

Today our greatest scientists have repeatedly warned us that a major atomic war may mean the annihilation of humanity. It is true therefore as never before, that the saving of the world calls for the effective acknowledgement of the Divine One-World Sovereignty. Into its hands all arms and armaments, and above all the atomic armaments (and unfortunately, we must add, the post-atomic armaments) will have to be surrendered, if we are to continue to live.

The early Christians saw these things with dazzling clearness. They lived in an age like our own in that the world was divided into two halves, an Eastern and a Western, each with its own ideology (in the ugly modern phrase); each intensely hostile to the other, and each building war against the other.

It was Rome and Parthia then; and the great war between the two was to start with appalling ruin, a few years after the writer of the last book in our New Testament had worded for us the slogan under which his comrades were to die for Christ in the Roman amphitheatres, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

That watchword defied the claims to supreme sovereignty of the rulers of both East and West. No Roman emperor had the right to call himself (as he did) Lord

of Lords, and no Parthian emperor had the right to call himself (as he did) King of Kings. There was only one World-Ruler, not two threatening to devastate the world in mutual war. That one World-Ruler, ultimate Master of History, was "King of Kings and Lord of Lords."

We shall only fulfill Christ's final commission for the saving of His world as we go forward with Him, borne up by His Spirit, to work faithfully in the same cause. That cause of the Kingdom must transform all human relationships. Above all it must bring to an end, before it is too late, all war-relationships.

Recently a small boy was asked by a benevolent uncle what he wanted to be when he was grown up. He replied—and he stands for us all—he replied in one word: "Alive!"

The choice of good or evil, life or death, is set before humanity now as never before. Christianity has never got rid of war because it has never honestly been tried.

We have never taken Christ at His word; as He bade us, by precept and example, to by-pass national sovereignty with its fatal war-machines, and to trust wholly in God, the One World Sovereign.

To encourage the others

LET it be publicly known that, if any benevolent person is intending to leave us a fortune when he dies, we do not insist on his dying first.

That this somewhat onerous condition can be safely ignored, is proved by the fact that one benevolent person, who wishes to remain anonymous, has just presented us with over a thousand pounds, and, I am delighted to report, remains very much alive.

I mention this joyful news "pour encourager les autres" (French, denoting editorial culture). But when I say "les autres," I don't mean only possessors of substantial sums. In pacifist circles, these are few and far between. In spite of these occasional acts of outstanding generosity and self-sacrifice, we still rely mainly on the cumulative effect of small, regular contributions.

While it is true that one person, putting by £35 a week, could provide us with £1,800 a year, it is also true—and much more relevant—that 400 people, collecting 2d. a week from 10 people, could provide us with the same amount, which as I have said before, is the EXTRA income we require.

THE EDITOR.

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BRITISH TROOPS FOR KOREA

Labour pacifist protest

Printed below is a resolution of which copies were sent to the Minister of War, Mr. Shinwell, and to Mr. Strachey, by the Executive Committee of the Labour Pacifist Fellowship (President, Reginald Sorensen, MP) on the day that British troops departed to Korea.

"THE Executive Committee of the Labour Pacifist Fellowship, strongly protests at the policy of H.M. Government in sending British troops to fight and die in Korea.

"We regret that H.M. Government is still putting its faith in war methods as a means of settling the Korean dispute and acquiescing in the continued destruction of that country and its people without any reference to their real desires.

Plans for Labour Conference

"We urge, instead, that H.M. Government strives to end the war and gives full support to any move that Pandit Nehru and the Indian delegate to UNO may make to bring about an early peaceful solution."

The Fellowship has drawn up and distributed three resolutions on Korea of which this is the last, and there are 30 resolutions on foreign policy on the agenda for the Annual Labour Party Conference at Margate.

During the Conference, on October 4, the LPP are holding a public meeting on foreign policy in conjunction with the NPC at the Pioneer Hall, Margate. Speakers will include Reginald Sorensen, MP, Emrys Hughes, MP, and Mrs. C. Ganley, MP.

That there is a certain amount of unrest in the ranks of the Labour Party with regard to the foreign policy of H.M. Government, quite apart from the LPP, has been shown by several incidents. In particular, Chelmsford Divisional Labour Party has passed a resolution calling for steps to stop the fighting and backing the Nehru proposals for calling in Communist China, with only one vote against.

LIBERALS DEBATE DISARMAMENT

"THAT this meeting considers total disarmament is essential to world peace," was the subject of an interesting debate at Dudley, Worcs, on Sept. 7, between the Gladstone Liberal Club and the Peace Pledge Union.

For the PPU, Mr. Duncan Whiteman said as a pacifist he favoured unilateral disarmament. War would be inevitable if armament stock-piles grew. As long as the world had arms the world, sooner or later, was going to use those arms. The price paid by nations, whether victors or otherwise, was great.

The financial expenditure on a war was 100 per cent, non-productive. Eventually, this was bound to lead a nation to poverty, misery and unemployment. The victors were always burdened with crushing debt and had to resort to borrowing. On the other hand, there was no moral justification to be served by the waste of lives in war; be it great or small. It was his conviction that man was by nature a pacifist.

Would like to agree, but . . .

For the Liberal Club, Captain William Hill, an unsuccessful Parliamentary candidate in the last General Election, said he would like to agree to unilateral disarmament. However, he contended, that war could not be prevented until its causes were removed. Until that was done, the only way to stop an aggressor was to show that his tactics would be resisted.

One heard of the King of Egypt spending a considerable amount of "other people's" money on the Riviera while there were people in his own country starving. This bred Communism. He favoured an international police force.

In conclusion, he added, "The moral disarmament has got to arise in ourselves. The churches have got to do more."

The meeting was the first of a series to be held weekly.

P.N. PAMPHLETS ANNOUNCE

FACING FACTS IN FORMOSA

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IN A VILLAGE WHERE NO EUROPEAN HAD EVER LIVED

Pick-and-shovel peacemakers in North Africa

ALGERIAN MEMBERSHIP NOW 200

By Pierre Martin

Our correspondent, a French conscientious objector, is the author of "In the Peace Trenches" which records the moving experiences which he and his comrades have lived through in Algeria.

Readers in Britain interested in the work of International Voluntary Service for Peace should contact the Secretary, 5 Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7. The address of the Algerian Secretary is 5 rue Cornuz, Algiers.

IN April, 1948, the first International Voluntary Service for Peace team landed on African soil to spread its message of reconciliation with pick and shovel.

Before its arrival, a weekend youth centre had been set up in Algiers. This little centre—in a country where relationships between colonisers and the local population together with racial tension, paralysed all attempts at co-operation—brought together in work-schemes a friendship—Moslems, Israelites, Free-thinkers, Catholics, Protestants, Arabs, Kabyles and Frenchmen—for the first time.

The IVSP team included Norwegians, Swiss, French, Americans, and a Dutch girl, to which were later added, English, Italians, Germans, Danes, Moroccans and Tunisians.

Advised by the Administration, this team went to help a poor village in Kabylie, a mountainous plateau to the East of Algiers. The very picturesque inhabitants are non-Arabs and speak another language; the region might be compared to Wales, but the customs are primitive and severe.

No European had ever lived in Tagmout Azouz, the village to which we were sent to help, and we were warned that only at the risk of our lives should we go about in shorts or bare-headed, look at women, or go along the road to the fountain. The many other taboos gave us the impression of being, at least, in danger of shocking our hosts unwittingly.

The atmosphere of mistrust and hostility which surrounded us is understandable when one remembers that 70 years ago the villages of the region were fighting against one another, and that since colonisation, the Kabyles have suffered from their contact with Europeans. The inhabitants could not believe our work was disinterested; they thought we were spies sent by the Administration and were stupefied to see Europeans do manual work for prisoners.

Introducing basic education

But by their work and goodwill, the IVSP members little by little won the confidence of the villagers. Pick and shovel work by the boys (construction of a community house and repairs to the fountain) and a start with basic education (ideas of hygiene, first-aid, sewing lessons for the girls, kindergarten) won the gratitude of the village.

This was crystallised later on by numerous invitations and a farewell fete at which the leading men expressed their surprise that Europeans should have the idea of giving them disinterested help.

Officials were pessimistic

The Administration and all those who saw us set out were of the opinion that we were running our heads against a brick wall, perhaps even committing suicide. But Tagmout Azouz marks an epoch in IVSP, which is based on the assumption that all men can get on together by destroying the a priori mistrusts which separate them.

After Tagmout Azouz, the team set out for Tineissouine, 1,100 metres above sea level in a mountainous circle. Our members were digging a trench across the mountain to bring spring water to where a school is to be built.

The population is even less advanced than that of Tagmout and carried us back to a stage of civilisation in which the use of the wheel is unknown and the harvest is made by tearing out by hand the poor heads of barley. Yet here again the local population is able in spite of the language difficulty to express its sympathy with us.

During the summer of 1948 there were no work-centres in Algeria on account of the heat, so the first Algerian volunteers went to work in Europe, chiefly in England, Holland and France.

Swimming for their food

In the autumn of 1948 a work-centre was opened at Talassa a desolate region though formerly very prosperous as Roman ruins testify. Among the ruins we were constructing a road and setting up a fountain. Camped in very primitive conditions, the volunteers went through a severe winter; when the wadi overflowed its banks, the food had to be fetched by swimming.

A more spectacular work-centre was set up in the little fishing port of Anzew near Oran the following spring to repair damage caused by a flood. Many soldiers of the Foreign Legion and some Naval men back from the war in Indo-China were in barracks in that town. The population, composed mostly of Spanish fishermen, was able to make a comparison between the voluntary civilian service for peace and the Military. In spite of pressure from the Administration, they made their pacifist sentiments known by inviting us officially to all their fetes.

In the heat of the 1949 summer, a small team worked at Kristel, a lovely spot near Oran, to transform a fisherman's hut into a Youth Hostel.

Simultaneously with the opening of a new work-centre in Kabylie in November, 1949, an Arab delegate was present for the first time at the IVSP International Conference. He represented the Algerian group and its 200 members.

Welcomed as friends

This last work camp in Kabylie, which was constructing a road, did not have to overcome the handicap of mistrust as did the first, and from the beginning the volunteers were welcomed as friends.

In conclusion let me quote the appreciation of the Director of Youth Movements in Algeria:

"I want to tell you how very interested I am in the efforts made by IVSP in Algeria. The undertaking attempted demanded a very uncommon will to work, and above all great qualities of heart and tact. Conversations I have had with the Authorities and the inhabitants of the villages of Kabylie, have demonstrated to me the usefulness of the work carried out, the happy and profound repercussions which it may well have and how true is the banner under which these teams work, PAX."

Translation by WRI

Canada rights a wrong

BELETED justice has been rendered to victims of war hysteria in the acceptance by the Canadian Government of a bill for \$1,222,892 to Japanese ousted from British Columbia during the conflict with Nazi Germany.

This is in settlement of property claims made on behalf of citizens who lost heavily by forced sales when they were evacuated from the Pacific Coast. The record shows that not a single Canadian of Japanese descent was found disloyal before or after the entry of Japan on the side of the Fascist Axis. More than 22,000 of Japanese origin were forced to move inland, and many of their personal possessions passed into other hands at firesale prices.

In the face of mounting evidence that the Custodian of Enemy Property discharged his duties in free and easy fashion in disposing of Japanese-held real estate, the Government appointed a commission of inquiry in 1947. It was found that in some cases underpayment was so bad that owners received only a small fraction of what their property was worth. In time, following the evacuation, public opinion recoiled from the unwarranted harshness, and the pendulum swung in the opposite direction. Today Japanese-Canadians enjoy the franchise in provincial elections and are on the way to regaining the influence they formerly had in many West Coast industries.

Extracts from Letters to Other Editors

NO FUTURE

All the "perks" that used to be included in Service pay have been whittled away with no compensation.

My father was in the Army. So is my husband. My father, at a rank and age little above my husband's had two horses. We, of course, have none. He had a full-time groom and a batman. We share a very part-time batman with other families. He drew very cheap food on his rations. We cannot. He and his family enjoyed free medical attention. We have to pay for the Health Service. His allowances were tax-free. Ours are not. He moved less often, the housing problem was less acute, and prospects for a long Service career much better.

My father was able to send three children to good public schools and one to a university, and, though with little money to squander, lived fairly comfortably. I wish I foresaw anything like the same life for my husband and son.

OFFICER'S WIFE

Daily Telegraph, Aug 23.

CAUTION

Until the United States is able to ask itself soberly why it is that some Asiatic countries are apparently more partial to Russian influences than to American capitalism, and to accept realistically its well merited political defeat in China, Washington's decisions should be carefully weighed. The relations between this country and the United States are so intimate and our

NEW MOVES TOWARD WORLD GOVERNMENT

THE people of Tennessee, have become pioneers for World Government. At a general election held there on Aug. 3, three delegates were elected to the World Constituent Assembly, as reported in "Pacifist Parade," Sept. 8.

Tennessee General Assembly authorised the election in 1949 and recited that the World Assembly should be held in Geneva in the autumn of 1950, on a basis of one delegate per million of population, to formulate a World Constitution.

Although the Act provides for an appropriation of State funds to cover the salary and expenses of the delegates, this is conditional upon fifteen other states taking similar action, and no other state has acted yet.

The delegates from Tennessee have announced that they will go to Geneva and convene the first session of the World Constituent Assembly, and at the same time they are starting a campaign to get other States to pass similar laws.

Japanese Speaker says "Yes"

Matsucka, Speaker of the Japanese House of Representatives, will attend the Assembly and has been offered the use of a plane to get there by a citizen of the United States. France has a Bill similar to the Tennessee one pending in Parliament, and in Italy the Bill was given its first reading in June.

International planning for the Geneva Assembly is under the direction of the Peoples' World Convention Executive Committee on Arrangements, (Secretary: Gerry Kraus, Palais Wilson, Geneva).

Individuals and representatives of organisations from all over the world are being invited to a three-day session to be held concurrently with the Constituent Assembly from Dec. 30 to discuss delegate elections throughout the world.

"Whatever happens now," says the Convention's Secretariat from Geneva, "this process now begun cannot be stopped and will ultimately be victorious, unless, of course, we are exterminated by atomic war."

Week in Geneva for £5

The World Government journal "Across Frontiers" reports:

Negotiations for accommodating visitors at Geneva during the week beginning Dec. 30 have been completed after conferences with Officials of various Ministries.

Feeding of visitors: An arrangement was made with Mr. Widmer (YMCA Cook) to assure the collective feeding of as many as 1,200 people for 6 Fr. Sw. per day, per person—3 meals and sandwiches.

Sleeping facilities: The authorities are placing at our disposal schoolrooms as dormitories. The "Gymnastic Halls" will be placed to our disposal which contain shower baths with hot water. Up to 2,000 or more such facilities can be supplied if necessary. The charge should be within 2 Fr. Sw. per night.

Thus as previously calculated, a week's stay at Geneva can be provided for a minimum of £5, \$15, Fr. Fr. 5,000, Lira 8,000, Fr. B. 700, or the equivalent in any other currency.

Halls: The Palais Electoral, one of the best equipped buildings for Congresses in Europe has been reserved. It holds 1,000 people. In case there should be many more visitors provisions are being made concerning bigger halls. The Palais Electoral has been placed at our disposal free of charge and we will only have to pay for services like heating, cleaning, lighting, etc.

friendship so strong that we should not hesitate to debate and even to demur when a policy might seem to us to be not wholly wise.

LESLIE SHEFFIELD

The Times, Aug. 12.

POST-WAR COMMUNITY

The new scale of pay for the Services prompts me to ask: What sort of a community is it that rewards its recruit soldiers and police constables better than its trained teachers?

B. D. R. CURTIS

Daily Herald, Sept. 7.

CONSCRIPTION

We condemn military conscription because of its purpose; it trains men for war which involves the use of atom bombs, bacterial warfare, obliteration bombing, and other inhuman devices which war now necessitates.

War being what it is, preparation for it must be morally wrong and un-Christian. We believe that the Christian faith calls men and nations to renounce the use of armed force as incompatible with the teaching and example of Jesus Christ, and calls Christians instead to a life service for the enthronement of Love in personal, social, commercial, and national life.

CLIFFORD H. MACQUIRE

General Secretary, Fellowship of Reconciliation.

The Times, Sept. 6.

Africa

A NEW TASK

"AFRICA today, with its dangerous doctrines of race and its mounting hatreds and bitterness, is a challenge to the Christian faith and to the task of building a Christian civilisation in that continent. It is a challenge which cannot be met merely by political denunciation. There must be people who will go out there in a humble and understanding spirit to enter into their problems and to restore confidence among the different peoples in one another and in the great possibilities that exist if we follow the way and methods of Christ—of mutual respect and co-operation rather than of racial antagonism and domination.

"Surely in this situation there is something sincere Christian people from the outside world can do to help. Something which neither the politicians in debates nor the International Court of Justice can hope to do. The Christian Churches could, even at this stage, achieve a miracle which could prevent disaster.

"We have also the new task of pioneering, in Africa, not in extensive exploration, but in intensive cultivation. The task of reclaiming the soil and the soul of a people are really one and the same. The conservation of Africa's natural and human resources requires certain values which in the end embrace our whole vision of Heaven and Earth. In the Kalahari desert we have an opportunity of achieving something with the enthusiasm of the African people."

—from "Africa Challenges Our Faith" by Michael Scott. Based on a sermon preached in St. Paul's Cathedral, June 13, 1950 and published by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, price 1d.)

India

A NEW IDEA IN EDUCATION

Gandhi, as Social Revolutionary, by Wilfred Wellock. Peace News, 1s.

WILFRED WELLOCK was a delegate to the World Pacifist Congress in India at the beginning of the present year, and was profoundly impressed both by the abysmal poverty of that country, and by the radical nature of the constructive forces set going by Mahatma Gandhi.

These forces, he believes, centre round Gandhi's conception of "Basic Education," which is a method (and practice) of the training of the young people of India, not merely in the three Rs at least up to a stage at which they can understand money-lenders' accounts, but also in constructive action for the service of the village communities in the midst of which their lot will be cast. Cottage-industries, scientific methods of soil-conservation, the fighting of malaria and other endemic diseases, and above all the realisation through a large variety of community-projects of the value of the neighbourhood-group, are only a few of the regenerative aspects of this new Gandhi-education.

Wilfred Wellock believes that Basic Education has relevance not only in India, but also in the West, where we are becoming increasingly aware of the fatal tendencies which drive our high-powered machine civilisation to dash itself in pieces. He believes, with Gandhi, that men and women of fearless mind, convinced that we are confronted today by the alternatives of mass suicide on the one hand and of a new community-pacifism on the other, have got to state their ideals in the terms of a new educational system and of a new working-ideal of community-life and community-service.

"The true alternative to capitalism has yet to be found, and it is our view that it is to be found in Gandhi's concept of Basic Education and the social order, which offers to humanity what may be its last chance of saving itself from destruction."

If any reader is tempted to dismiss such ideas as Utopias, let him journey to Denmark for a few days, and see them in operation, through the Folk High Schools on the one hand and the far-reaching influence of agricultural Co-operation on the other. I have just returned from such a visit to Scandinavia and am ever more immensely impressed by the achievement of these small Gandhi-nations.

The industrial regionalisation of which Gandhi, and Wilfred Wellock, have been apostles, is there to be seen in visible fulfilment. But what of the present tendency to drag these gallant little democracies into the man-made God-blaspheming atomic conflict between East and West? Did Gandhi live, and die, too late?

J. S. HOYLAND

China

A new sense of values is struggling for emergence

WARS are waged for a variety of reasons. On the criterion of objective responsibility they can be roughly divided into three groups—those for which particular individuals could be held strictly responsible, those for which the responsibility is more diffused and both warring camps may be held jointly accountable, and those for which humanity as a whole is ultimately responsible. By objective responsibility is meant factual causation alone, apart from moral or legalistic considerations.

Most classical wars of conquest belong to the first group. The conquerors had it in their power to make or unmake war at will. There were no other forces at work driving the nations to war over which they, the conquerors, had no control; the responsibility is therefore clear.

Under such circumstances, a CO movement would constitute a perfect witness for peace whose moral authority could not be challenged, for it would receive inner sanction from even the conquerors themselves.

Impersonal wars

The second group differs from the first in one important respect. Here the real cause for war is not confined to the personal level. The whole of the organised state is involved. Individuals in positions of authority could hasten, retard or modify such wars to a certain extent; they could not eliminate them altogether.

World Wars I and II are recent examples. They were inherent in the international relationship the nations had jointly built up. That these wars would be completely futile was apparent to the pacifists and a great many others; but this realisation in no way affected the course of war to any perceptible extent.

The authority of the peace-witness was weakened by the organised state being totally involved in both camps. On the other hand, pacifist ideals of international symbiosis received some practical recognition in the League of Nations Covenant. Its failure should not blind us to this significant fact.

While strains due to deep-seated political or economic disharmony tend to produce wars of the second group, those due to ideological antagonism produce wars of the third. Instead of a conflict of interests which could, after all, be adjusted by compromise at a conference table, one finds a conflict of convictions which by the nature of things abhor compromise.

The instance of the Crusades at once springs to one's mind. Battle was carried not only to every corner of the land where such a war was going on, but to almost every home. Moreover, every combatant individual had to fight it out in his own mind first.

Ideological wars are characterised by emotional intensity and intellectual perversion ending in the betrayal of the ideologies themselves. At the onset, however, a convinced exponent can be transformed almost overnight from the meekest of lambs into a veritable lion.

The occasion for an ideological war cannot be taken away by tinkering at economic

or political conditions at whatever level; it is futile to fight an idea with concrete weapons, whether guns or butter. It is precisely here that the pacifist has his concern.

That the world is now threatened with a war of this type cannot be gainsaid. Not only is the traditional social order challenged, but also its underlying moral conception. A new sense of values is struggling for emergence, necessitated by the demands of the march of history. In this sense it is inevitable.

"Democracy is making a fatal mistake in clinging to capitalism, and Communism to materialism," writes a Chinese pacifist

Dr. Beauson Tseng

Our contributor was a delegate to the World Pacifist Meeting in India. His sister is Miss Pao Sven Tseng the well-known Chinese educationalist and pacifist.

On the other hand, so long as it is amorphous and plastic it is subject to accidents of stress and strain of the time and is capable of being cast in a mould which humanity may have cause to regret for centuries to come.

Organic growth

While democracy undoubtedly grew out of capitalism, it should not be hide-bound by it. Life grew out of dead matter, yet it has a reality of its own and obeys laws and impulses not shared by matter. It seems that all evolutionary trends are in the direction from matter upwards, from the inert to the quickening; from the enclosed to the free; in other words, from the physical to the metaphysical.

Democracy is no exception. Its emphasis on freedom of the conscience and on the sacredness of personality has a rational basis. It would be a philosophical mistake to confuse democracy with capitalism. Communism is frankly materialistic in outlook, but an observer is struck by the amount of idealism with which it has moved the masses on the one hand and captivated the intellectuals on the other.

Conceding that Communism has the backing of history insofar as it insists on an immediate change in our sense of values, in what direction is the change to take place? It would seem that the Communist philosophy would have us accept the limitation imposed upon evolution by the dictates of matter. In this a thinking pacifist cannot but take exception. Conscientious objection and mechanisation of personality do not go together.

Fatal mistakes

Democracy is making a fatal mistake in clinging to capitalism, and Communism to materialism. The pacifist concern, from this particular angle, is to wean democracy from dependence upon the profit motive, and to liberate Communism from matter-determining fatalism.

A new sense of values must be found which shall harmonise Communism with personal freedom and orientate democracy with modern trends in conformity with social conscience. The solution is to be sought for with the help of a new study of the chore of Oriental thought in the light of modern science and social conditions.

Britain

NEW APPROACH TO YOUNG BIRMINGHAM

Eighty Thousand Adolescents; a study of young people in Birmingham by the Staff and Students of Westhill Training College, under the direction of Bryan Reed. Allen and Unwin Ltd.

THE wartime officially sponsored drive and more recent developments in the service of youth led the Staff and students of Westhill Training College to undertake an investigation into the life and leisure-time needs and occupations of the young people of Birmingham.

The results of their three-year labour are now published in this handsome book, and the care and thoroughness with which the workers tackled the difficult tasks of investigation, compilation, presentation and interpretation are immediately apparent.

In view of the careful planning behind the investigation, it is unfortunate that what is perhaps its least reliable and worthwhile feature has occasioned so much comment in the Press. A questionnaire concerning leisure-time pursuits was distributed among the young people of the town. 1,000 of the replies to these "Twenty Questions" are used as the basis for comment and generalisation in Chapter 3. The authors are much more careful in drawing conclusions from these replies than the popular Press were, but they themselves have to admit that at least one of the questions is ambiguous, and the replies to it therefore of little use.

They are subject, moreover, to the serious criticism that the replies are not in fact representative, since the generally held view among social statisticians is that a sample of one-tenth of the population concerned is necessary for accuracy. This would have required 8,000 replies.

But these criticisms are levelled at the weak links in an otherwise unassailable chain. In its twelve chapters the book discusses all the questions of fundamental importance in Youth Work today. Basing their arguments and conclusions upon the carefully collated and well assimilated facts concerning one representative industrial area, the authors are able to present a picture which is obviously true of the country as a whole.

While some of their remarks will surprise neither youth workers nor the general public (e.g. that radiograms are treated with more respect if the users have paid for them themselves; that inspired leadership is of infinitely greater value than lavishly equipped premises), they have presented impressive arguments for less orthodox views—e.g. that in the local authority versus voluntary organisation argument it is often in fact the local authority rather than the voluntary body which is in a better position to provide the experimental services.

Of particular interest is the chapter on the "unattached" youth, where it is made clear that it is "quite erroneous to suppose that there are large numbers of 'unattached' adolescents roaming the streets or going to the cinema every evening or spending their leisure time in vicious and anti-social ways. In fact their lives are often as socially desirable as those of club members.

Of the many photographs illustrating the text, only a few are obviously posed, while those of a "jive" session in a dance hall and a cycle speedway have brilliantly captured the atmosphere of these scenes.

PETER BAYNES

Germany

A NEW POLICY

By HEINZ KRASCHUTZKI

AT a time when the rearmament of Germany is being seriously considered by all those who seem to have no new ideas, and visualise security in terms of an armaments race, the programme of the so-called "Nauheim Group" may be of interest. A political organisation founded by Professor Noack of Würzburg, it is apparently the only group of its kind with a practical programme.

In these distressing and dangerous times for our country, the Group declares, Germans should not divide and waste their energies and abilities in spiritual turmoil and devastating contradictions.

Keep together as a nation! Our forces should not be wasted by participation in a Cold War, but used to implement a constructive plan to end the Cold War.

This constructive plan must be concerned with the creation of fair and practicable conditions for peace between the four occupying powers and consequently peace with Germany.

Menacing none

The nature of this peace must be such that neither the Atlantic Powers nor the Soviet Union need fear that later a reunited Germany could possibly be found as an ally fighting on either side against them.

A policy for all Germany has therefore one principal point: no part of Germany may become bound to an Eastern or a Western bloc by military agreement or regional security pacts.

We pledge ourselves to the Christian principles of mutual love and non-violence. We have suffered more than any other nation and have grasped the meaning of the words: "All they that take the sword shall perish with the sword." Therefore, we want peace which can come from a neutralised Germany, making our country a zone of quietness and peaceful reconstruction.

To prevent civil war

In order to prevent the danger of civil war being used as an argument against such a peace treaty, police forces should be established before the settlement, in all parts of the country with the same armaments as they carry now, but these arms should be useless for military purposes.

Instead of "Statutes" the occupying power should have a common controlling body whose function would be merely to prevent any German rearmament.

Such a controlling body could be later developed, if the powers wanted steadily to enjoy the fruits of conciliation, into an international body for the general limitation of armaments.

Without such reunion, neutralisation and final evacuation of Germany, tension between the powers cannot be ended; so this plan is in the interests of the entire world and is an indispensable basis for a durable peace.

This is the only way to end the state of war and achieve the reunion of Germany. Only a national assembly, freely elected by the whole of Germany, can form a national government able to sign a peace treaty.

Divided we fall

To refuse to neutralise Germany means the acceptance of either a continuously divided Germany or the unavoidability of a Third World War.

Ideological, economic and political differences between world powers are not a sufficient reason for slaughtering and maiming millions of people once again.

More important than coal and steel, than higher or lower quotas of production, are men and peace.

The tasks of a peaceful world are such that they would create more employment than armaments can. The neutralisation of Germany would remove in a very short time from the powers of the world the necessity of armaments and set them free to promote peaceful enterprise on a worldwide scale. Whole continents and hundreds of millions of people are waiting for such peaceful development.

Ten Years Ago

From Peace News, September 13, 1940

One of the saddest facts about the present situation is the widespread assumption that the overthrow of Hitler will be the prelude to the creation of a really democratic and peaceful Europe.

Every conceivable agency and device has been used to convince people that the cause of the present conflagration is an upstart of the Austrian Hitler. A broad survey of the facts, however, proves conclusively that Hitler is the demon of the storm which capitalism has brought upon the world, the product of the wrongs which now saw fit to right, and which persisted and multiplied through many decades.

Europe is in turmoil today because it lacks the vision necessary to build a great European democracy free and equal from end to end.

Wilfred Wellock

STILLNESS

FOR a little while everything is still and cool. In the late dusk and early moonrise, just beyond the harsh sounds and smells of the airstrip, a young lieutenant walks leisurely along green, close-cropped grass beside the tennis courts.

In one arm he cradles a tiny, blonde girl of about three. With the other he circles the waist of his pretty young wife, who looks upward now and then to a bone-white moon. For a moment it is almost impossible to remember that the front is less than one air-hour away.

I even recall what the lieutenant said to his buddies an hour before when he landed at the strip:

"Ten railroad cars. Beautiful target. Clobbered hell out of 'em. Must have killed at least 200 gooks."

That was in Korea. He does not talk about this to his wife. They've talked about such things before and she doesn't come down to see him off on missions any more. He just gets up in the morning and goes to work.

—From a dispatch by Richard K. Tucker to the Manchester Guardian, August 28.

ACTION

IN THE JET "... it sounded as though we were astride the pressure-feeder lines in a great oil refinery, where the petroleum screams through the pipes at thousands of pounds of pressure per square inch; or maybe it was the noise of thousands of unseen locomotives blowing off steam just behind you in the night. It gave you the most acute feeling of being lashed to a rocket of godawful strength."

ONE PLANE DIVED and a pilot "chortled soft profanities to himself while watching the tank explode when the rockets hit it." Another pilot "flipped over into attack position, went into his dive and blew the truck into the next world."

THE MIRROR REFLECTED "A face I couldn't recognise. Eyelids pulled down from the bottoms so that the eyes were protruding; cheeks creased with long, vertical lines and sodden and formless, like gunny sacking dragged from the river. It was myself, and I thought, 'Good God! What a picture...'"

—From an article by D. D. Duncan, Life photographer, who flew in a jet attacking North Korean supply trains. Life, International Edition, July 31.

New Zealand viewpoint

We warmly recommend Peace News to our readers. Its emphasis is different from that of our own paper, but it has the advantage of being a weekly with a much larger circulation and a greater popular appeal.

—New Zealand Christian Pacifist

On Wednesday, September 20, at 7.30 p.m., Professor Kathleen Lonsdale will address a meeting in the Holborn Hall in support of a London Toldas Group. In the following article Dr. Alan Litherland outlines the aims of the Group.

we should fail to put it forward in the plainest possible terms.

Disarmament must, however, be the focal point in the change of public opinion, for it is by this that we change from power to peace politics.

A plan for policy

In terms of practical policy, Toldas advocates the following policy for Britain:

Britain should remain armed and adopt a "generous but firm" attitude until ready for change. After suitable preparation, all armaments should be scrapped and the manpower employed therein be transferred to industry and agriculture, except such as may be required for internal police purposes and to organise an unarmed, volunteer force trained for leadership in emergencies and for rescue and relief work anywhere in the world.

The resources saved by disarmament should be used to build prosperity at home and help build prosperity elsewhere. Every effort should be made to pierce the Iron Curtain with generous gestures and offers of co-operation, even at some sacrifice to ourselves.

Finally an appeal should be made to other countries to follow our example.

Open to pacifists

This plan should make it clear not only that Toldas is not incompatible with pacifism, but also that the group is not intended in any way to rival the PPU, but to work alongside it on the political issue only. Its slogan is: "From bombs to bread; from power to peace."

There is a tremendous task to be done, and the group needs all the support it can get, from pacifists and non-pacifists alike.

By Cyril Hughes

"What would you do if ...?" in a new form.

"WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO?"

PEACE NEWS recently printed statements by British volunteers for Korea concerning their reasons for wishing to take part in the war.

These statements are remarkably similar to those

made before a Tribunal set up by the Ministry of Peace; a Tribunal which exists to examine and register men who claim to have a conscientious objection to peace. We are privileged to be able to report verbatim part of the proceedings of this Tribunal.

The first applicant stated that he wished to go to Korea because he felt frustrated at home.

Chairman of the Tribunal: Frustrated? By whom?

Applicant: Oh, you know; just generally. I sort of start things and don't finish them, and don't get anywhere.

Chairman: I don't think we can accept that, you know. Suppose everyone who felt frustrated went running off to Korea? Suppose I did it?

Applicant: There's nothing to stop you.

In striking the applicant's name off the register of conscientious objectors to peace, the Tribunal recommended him to take up chess.

The second applicant offered no written statement of the grounds of his objection.

Chairman: What is your conscientious objection to keeping the peace?

Applicant: I'll be quite frank, sir. In civvy street, you have to work. Now in the Army...

Chairman: I see. So you would plunge the world into war in order to live a life of idleness?

A member of the Tribunal: I have never heard anything so disgraceful. Besides, there are many ways of making a good living in civvy street without working...

In striking the applicant off the register, the Tribunal provided him with a list of methods of living without working. The applicant expressed himself entirely satisfied.

Chairman: Next applicant. And what's your objection to peace?

Applicant: Beg pardon?

Chairman: Why do you think you ought to go to Korea?

Applicant: Mr. Churchill says so.

Chairman: Would you jump under a bus if Mr. Churchill told you to?

Applicant: Yes.

A member: Who is Mr. Churchill?

Chairman: Registered unconditionally. (Whispers) Korea's the best place for him... if he stayed we'd want him to emigrate. (Aloud) Next please. Ah, you look a sensible sort of lad. Now, why do you object to keeping the peace?

Applicant: The Communists have done some things they should not do.

A member: What do you know about Communism?

Applicant: I don't know much about Communism, but we'll soon polish them off.

Chairman: The applicant's name is removed from the register. Political objections cannot be entertained. Next. Now, my man, is yours a political objection, too?

Applicant: No sir, I don't think you'd call it that, sir.

Chairman: Then what makes you want to go to Korea?

Applicant: Emily, sir.

Chairman: Emily?

Applicant: My ole' woman, sir.

Chairman: And what has your ole'—er—what has Emily to do with Korea?

Applicant: Well, sir, you couldn't get much further than Korea, could you sir? I mean, if you know of anywhere further, just let me know sir. If you 'ad to live with my ole' woman, sir...

Chairman: M'm, I see. I think, gentlemen, we may perhaps grant this application on compassionate grounds...? Yes? Good. Next applicant, please. I see that you state you want to fight the Russians.

Applicant: That's right sir. When I was in Berlin a couple of Russians palmed a bottle of wood-alcohol on me wot they said was vodka. Gave them a Leica camera for it, I did, as I swiped off a bleeders, see?

Chairman: But there aren't any Russians fighting in Korea.

Applicant: Garn!

Chairman: I think you'd better renew your application at a later date. Decision postponed sine die. Next.

The next applicant stated at some length that he felt it was the duty of everyone of us to do our bit in the struggle between the forces of good and evil.

A member: On which side?

Applicant: On the side of good, of course.

A member: And how do you know which that is?

Applicant: Oh, sir, I do declare you're trying to confuse me. Why the newspapers make it quite clear which side is right.

Chairman: Depends on what you read. Now take The Times and Pravda and it's sometimes very confusing.

A member: What would you do if a Russian

came and raped your sister while you were in Korea?

Applicant: There you have a pretty point. I hardly think I should know very much about it really.

At this point an earlier applicant was heard to say that he'd love to see a Russian having a go at Emily, and that if there was any chance of it happening he'd like to stay behind and watch. The Chairman spent some minutes restoring order.

Chairman: I suppose you will entrust your sister's honour to the editors of the newspapers who urge you to go to war. The editors stay at home, you know.

A member: Personally, I'd rather entrust my sister's honour to a Russian than a journalist.

Another member: While you are footling around in Korea I suppose you will still expect to be provided with food, drink and tobacco?

Applicant: But naturally. A fighting man...

Member: And where do you think these things come from? If we all went tearing off to Korea because we read the newspapers, who would there be to grow the food and things; and transport them to where they are wanted? It seems to me that you want to live as a parasite on the labour of those taking part in the peace effort; and you seek to hide your irresponsible laziness beneath a mass of fine phrases about good and evil.

Chairman: I agree. A thoroughly irresponsible application. Next, please; and I hope this is not a trivial and frivolous application.

Applicant: It is not.

Chairman: Good. Then why do you object to peace?

Applicant: Because I don't like it.

Chairman: That ought to be clear enough. But if you would explain...

Applicant: I'll explain all right. I'm a free man, see? A man of enterprise; a man of initiative. And such a man cannot live in Britain today. The air stifles him. The atmosphere depresses him. He's hemmed in on all sides by the Welfare State. In the war it wasn't so bad. A blind eye was turned to lots of things. But peace time stinks. Two years ago I brought off a nice little business deal with a really worthwhile profit margin. Put money into circulation, that's what it did. And do you know what I got for it? Two years in gaol. A pal of mine in the same line of business has just got ten years for manslaughter. Man-slaughter! Legitimate removal of competition, that's what it was. And I'm asking you to register me as a conscientious objector to keeping the peace be-

cause the peace is incapable of keeping me at the standard of life to which I am accustomed.

Chairman: This seems to me an honest and understandable application.

A member: I agree.

Chairman: Registered unconditionally.

Applicant: Thank you, gentlemen. If I'm not soon selling Russian salad to General MacArthur, I'll...

Chairman: Next. Ah, the last application today? Good. And why do you want to go to war?

Applicant: To deter the aggressor.

Chairman: What makes you think going to war will do that?

Applicant: Mr. Attlee says so.

Chairman: Mr. Attlee? Are you sure?

Applicant: Positive sir.

Chairman: I'm certain you've made a mistake you know. I seem to remember Mr. Chamberlain making the remark in 1939.

A member: No, no; surely it dates back from 1914. Let me see; was it...

Another member: I'm afraid you're all wrong. I distinctly remember, about 1899 or 1900, those very words...

The Tribunal adjourned to settle the point.

It is to be hoped that these Tribunals will soon become a prominent feature of our national life. If all men called up had to pass through such a Tribunal, we are convinced that our Armed Services would more than compensate in quality and conviction for what they might lack in numbers.

Pax Bulletin

The current issue of the Pax Bulletin front pages an article by the Rev. W. J. Deacy of the New York St. Patrick's Cathedral. St. Patrick's is in Lower Manhattan alongside the mammoth Empire State Building and its six Rockefeller Centre bretheren.

Writing of war, the author states that Roman Catholics need a far deeper understanding of the Sermon on the Mount and of the Holy Eucharist and Baptism. Baptism, he writes, cements a solidarity between Jesus and the Baptised.

Father Deacy concludes: "The obligation of rendering unto Caesar can never include the rendering of Christ."

An "Average Catholic" criticises the Pax organisation and there are two replies; John Nibb writes on the Morality of War and there is a letter from John Farrell on Communism.

Toldas and Pacifism

IN a previous article (PN Jan. 13, 1950) I pointed out that the English language has no word to describe the policy which pacifists advocate, and proposed the word "Toldas," which is derived by taking letters from "Total Disarmament" and "Active Security," to fill the gap.

You will naturally ask, "What is the difference between Toldas and pacifism?" and, very briefly, the answer is this: Toldas is a national policy which cannot be put into effect until the nation as a whole is prepared for it; pacifism is an individual attitude, involving personal renunciation of war, whatever the majority may think or do.

Up to the present the Peace Pledge Union, and to a less extent the other pacifist movements, have tried to perform two quite distinct functions: One is to collect together individual pacifists on the basis of a peace pledge and to increase their number; the other is to advocate total unilateral disarmament and policies in keeping with it.

An inevitable result of this double appeal was that many who joined the PPU before 1939 were not genuine pacifists at all, but only believers in the political policy which pacifists were advocating; when their efforts failed and war came, they very naturally left the PPU.

At the same time there must have been others who also believed in this practical policy, but who never joined the PPU because they knew already that the individual peace pledge was not for them.

Recent developments, however, have made the common-sense case for "peace politics" immeasurably stronger than before, and it could now be accepted by many thousands of people who would not think of becoming pacifists in the individual sense.

Wanted: a new movement

Perhaps in the past it did not matter very much that membership of the PPU was conditional upon the acceptance of the pledge,

but now it matters a great deal, because now a much larger number of people are ready to be persuaded of the political common-sense of disarmament—i.e. Toldas—but still only a very few will accept the pacifism of the peace pledge.

Indeed it is essential that public support for Toldas should run far ahead of conversion to pacifism, if we are to pass in the course of a few years from power politics to peace politics, without being bogged in an intermediate stage which would produce either dictatorship or anarchy.

There is therefore an urgent need for an organisation completely divorced from the peace pledge of individual pacifism, which must be capable of changing public opinion at the political level within the next decade.

Pressure group not party

It is not a new party that is needed, for on other issues its supporters would be divided. Rather it must be in the nature of a pressure group, working through all parties and concentrating on the one specific issue, as other groups may concentrate on the issue of World Government, or monetary reform, or friendship with Russia, or what not.

The Toldas Group

In order to meet this need, a small group has been started under the name of the Toldas group. Its present task is to prepare the way for a large scale organisation, and to work out a technique for effecting a rapid change of public opinion on this issue.

Membership is open to all who support total unilateral disarmament, whether pacifist or not. As there is no question of conscientious objection, this can apply to members of the armed forces, who can believe in and work for Toldas while still remaining members of the forces.

This is of course only the negative side of Toldas, but there is no suggestion that the positive side is any less important, or that

PLATFORM POINTS



SO SIMPLE

"It is so delightfully simple. The principle is the same whether you are in a rough-house inside a pub in the Mile End Road or in an oxygen suit in a B.36 forty-thousand feet above the roofs of the Kremlin.

"You sock 'em when they aren't looking—with everything you've got.

"In the pub you wait till the bully has got his back turned—then you comb his hair with the heaviest chair-leg that you can lay hands on. You also give him a shave with a smashed-off tumbler. In the thin, freezing air over Moscow you press the button that opens the bomb bays and send the atom bomb drifting down on its parachute to explode over the sleeping city below.

"Both courses are utter madness. Both courses have supporters, ranging from British MPs to barrow boys, cosh kids, spivs and Mr. Francis Matthews, the Secretary of the United States Navy.

"Mr. Matthews does not exactly say 'sock 'em now'!

"He uses different words and gentler words. He says that the United States should be prepared, if necessary, 'to start a war to compel co-operation for peace.' In other words, give them peace, sweet and tranquil—even if you have to blow them to hell in doing it."

—Cassandra, Daily Mirror, Aug. 29

TALK

"Do the Gaumont-British newsreel producers realise the effect of their treatment of the war propaganda? This week, pictures of blazing Korean villages, American guns pumping shells into the distance and landscapes disintegrated under the onslaught of Flying Fortresses were accompanied by a commentary whose hearty gusto would have been suitable at a football match. I would commend to the Gaumont-British news editors the observations made on Wednesday by The Times military correspondent that "the bombing of friendly territory is likely to have unpleasant repercussions if foreign observers conclude that it is excessive," and that "the moral factor, immensely important, can be forgotten only at great risk."

—Critic, New Statesman, Aug. 19

SUBMARINE CREWS

Some Press correspondents have suggested that the Russian fishing boats which wandered recently through the Channel and now are fishing off Iceland where, it is said, no fish remain, are being used to train future submarine crews in navigation. Whatever the truth of that assertion, we note in the Manchester Guardian, Sept. 4:

"One hundred and seventy-three Turkish officers and men arrived in New York yesterday for submarine training at United States Navy bases. After training they will sail two submarines from Philadelphia to Turkey under the Mutual Defence Assistance Pact."

THE KOREAN PEG

In the last week, three countries have announced that their period of conscription will be extended: Britain from 18 months to two years; France from one year to 18 months; Belgium from one to two years.

We should like to know whether these decisions, we presume taken jointly by the combined defence council, were made before or after the Korean fighting began; for we suspect that the Korean war is providing a splendid peg on which to hang many unpleasant consequences of the Atlantic pact. Note in the following paragraph from a speech by Jack Tanner, AEU President, (News Chronicle, Sept. 4), how the term "United Nations" is used where "Atlantic Pact" would be correct.

"We have, unfortunately, to accept the necessity for rearmament to fulfil our United Nations obligations. Our members must realise that only to the extent to which productivity is raised can we maintain and improve living standards."

Without the Korean war, would the British people have so easily accepted an extension of conscription or would Jack Tanner be able to present such a muddled appeal to the workers?

JOHN WELLINGTON

I RENOUNCE WAR AND I WILL NEVER SUPPORT OR SANCTION ANOTHER

This pledge, signed by each member, is the basis of the Peace Pledge Union. Send YOUR pledge to

P.P.U. HEADQUARTERS

Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh St., WCI

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

S. African viewpoint

IN Peace News of August 4, 1950, under the title "Bitterness in South Africa," I read Muriel Lester's account of her experiences in this country. To my deep regret, I had not the privilege of meeting or hearing Muriel Lester. She and I have a mutual friend in Mary Barr—a friend and follower of Mahatma Gandhi.

First, will you pardon me for making a slight correction? The word "Africans," usually spelt "Afrikaans," is used as the word "English" is—Afrikaans Literature, Afrikaans Culture, the peoples are called Afrikaners or Afrikaans-speaking, to distinguish them from English-speaking South Africans.

Muriel Lester said that the attitude of the Afrikaners had been a shock to her. To me, an elderly English-speaking South African, the fifth generation to be born in South Africa, it is shocking and incomprehensible. Misunderstandings there have been between the two races, and squabbles, but seldom bitterness.

This bitterness is something new and alien. The result, partly of the general feeling of fear—the most cruel of all the emotions. Further, it has been deliberately fostered during their years of waiting, by the political party now in power. This party owes much of its sway to the fact that it has the Dutch Reformed Church behind it. And whenever a religious body is the "Power behind the Throne," the result is a lowering instead of an improvement in the ideals and standard of government.

Muriel Lester spoke of the attitude of the Afrikaners towards the Africans and coloured races. But in this the Afrikaners are not alone. We have a saying in South Africa, that the only time the two white races forget their differences and stand together is when they combine to oppress the Non-European. "And in that day were Pilate and Herod reconciled . . ."

South Africa will go down to posterity—supposing the atomic bomb allows us to have a posterity—as having preceded Nazi Germany in depriving a section of her citizens of their citizenship by Act of Parliament.

Natal, the most British of the South African Colonies, led the way in 1896, when she deprived the Indians in Natal of the franchise. When the Union of South Africa came into being in 1910, the liberal-minded, as always in any age or country very few in number, hoped that the progressive policy of the Cape Colony would be followed in the other three provinces. Instead, it was the harsh, illiberal policy of the Transvaal that was adopted.

Since Union, the Lights of Freedom have been extinguished, one by one. The few who have lifted their voices against this oppression of their Non-European fellow South Africans are drawn from both white races.

Muriel Lester said she saw one hopeful sign: the number of fine people who had gone there (to South Africa) to throw in their lot with the Africans and Indians. But there are South Africans who are doing this. I suppose only a South African born can understand what it means to overcome the colour-prejudice—a prejudice we drank with our mother's milk. Yet many of us are doing it, without regret or fear, and with only one thought: to spread the Gospel of the Brotherhood of Man.

SUZANNE STEPHEN

4 Robinson Avenue,
Discovery 2,
Transvaal, South Africa.

What Russia wants?

I HAVE been wanting for some time to send you an article on one outcome of the war in Korea, which seems to have been entirely missed by those who are waging it. But I am no longer able to write full length articles.

Today I got a letter from a well known American writer, who asks me what I think about the whole business. So here—instead of an article—is the answer I have sent him, in which I have tried to state the case, as I see it, in a nutshell, and which you are free to make use of in Peace News.

I will try briefly to answer your inquiry as to what I think about the present situation in Korea. You may, or may not, know that I am a pacifist, and therefore I think that the whole Korean business is silly as well as wicked.

Korea is being brought to ruin to enable Stalin to demonstrate how (with his secret assistance) a small semi-civilised people can keep up a long-drawn resistance to the Western Powers—with (incidentally) a great loss of prestige to those powers throughout Asia.

They are doing exactly what Stalin wants them to do, and it is costing them a great deal more than it is costing him. He has chosen his locality for the try-out very cleverly; and it remains entirely in his power to decide whether it shall become a World War or not.

He can allow North Korea to be defeated; but USA cannot allow North Korea to win . . . America may win an exhausting victory. Russia will remain quite unexhausted for the next bout. And that is exactly what Russia wants, and is planning for.

LAURENCE HOUSMAN

Street,
Somerset.

"This Korean business"

MR. Arthur Frith in your issue for today says that "Dr. Soper was more or less repudiated for his utterances at the Methodist Conference." What "More or less" means I do not know.

But I was there. What was done was that at the evening session a timorous minister was allowed to say that when he spoke Dr. Soper did not speak for the Conference. Of course he did not, and if he had been present and a resolution to that effect had been proposed he would have voted for it. He did not imply that he was speaking for anybody but himself.

A whole body of us who did not agree with his statement would have fought for his right to say it, and if it had been possible some of us would have said that although we did not go as far as he did, we should have a difficulty to say which of his two alternatives was the worse. On the other hand, few of us thought they were true alternatives.

With regard to the couplet from Isaac Watt's hymn of jubilation at the death of Queen Anne, I have always felt it was a shame to bowdlerise it and then make people sing it as a national hymn. Of course those words are totally inconsistent with war preparations.

OWEN RATTENBURY

68 Grosvenor-road,
Muswell Hill, N.10.

Korea, the blame, and reply

Whilst endorsing wholeheartedly Miss Morrison's detestation of war, expressed in her Campaign Column of July 28, I must call her attention to something which she appears to have completely overlooked.

I do not wish to enter into any argument as to the rights or wrongs of any one party in this deplorable situation, but Miss Morrison seems to attach the entire blame for the devastation of the land of the Koreans to the British.

Had we refrained from entering this war, does Miss Morrison imagine that the North Koreans would have had any more sympathy for the homes and countryside of their Southern brethren? Would not their tanks, their planes and their guns have brought misery and death to the inhabitants? Would their treatment of prisoners and the civil population be any more humane?

War is a ghastly and immoral business but at least let us be fair in assessing the blame.

W. LAWRENCE REID

Emsmore, Alfrick,

Sybil Morrison writes:

I have closely reconsidered my article about which Mr. Reid takes me to task and my conclusion is that he has misunderstood my point; I take the blame for this, since in a short 500 words, a writer must, at all costs, avoid ambiguities!

My article was intended as an indictment of Mr. Churchill's intolerably complacent, facile jargon, which exhorts Britishers to look upon the war in Korea as their own. I tried to debunk these infamous analogies, and glib phrases, by drawing a word-picture of the war as it might be, if it were, in fact, fought out in our "own towns and countryside" in order to "localise" it away from America or Russia.

I do not blame any one particular nation or person, but I believe that a grave and terrible responsibility lies upon those who detest war for the immoral, inhuman, evil and futile business that it is, and yet excuse it or support it for any reason whatever.

Why does Russia...?

IF, as we are told, Russian policy is aimed at world domination by force of arms, and if the Russians have now two-and-a-half million in their armed forces, with 25,000 tanks, a large submarine fleet, and so on, why are they waiting for the West to build up strong armies before they attack us?

The only military strength of the West lies in a pile of atom bombs. The Russian leaders have only to evacuate their large cities and they can laugh at our atomic bombs, while their armies sweep across Europe. If they are as ruthless as we are told they would think nothing of such a large scale evacuation. The small and ill-equipped North Korean army was almost too much for the Americans to cope with; how much more the full strength of Russia?

The situation does not make sense. Perhaps the Russians are giving us a chance so that it will be a fair fight? It is the only logical conclusion in view of what our papers tell us.

D. N. KIRK

84 Whitehall Gardens,
Chingford, E.4.

Injustice and hypocrisy

WE read in the Press (News-Chronicle, 17.8.50) of the release "because of good conduct" of eight senior war-criminals who were serving seven year sentences and had three more years to go.

These were all responsible men whose ages averaged 50 years. They were released by the US Occupation Authority who had originally sentenced them for a whole list of ghastly cruelties to civilians.

Yet on page five of the same paper we also learn on the same day that these same US Authorities have just sentenced an 18-year-old girl to nine years on the charge of spying for the Czechs (she drew a plan of a barracks).

D. J. MORRIS

48 Admiral Street,
S.E.8.

The lesser evil

I AM a reader of all kinds of literature and like to study and understand all points of view without bias or prejudice.

As I understand it those who support the policy of Peace News and the PPU are opposed to war, slaughter and killing and to the taking or crippling of human life in any circumstances.

I am wondering whether this is always possible for anyone living under the conditions in which we have to carry on our existence on this planet.

A lot is said about the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Merely in illustration and as one example out of thousands which might be quoted may I submit the following:

A very conscientious pacifist, who happens also to be a railway signalman, has a stationary train crowded with passengers on the main line in the section for which he is responsible. On account of a signal defect, a mistake or oversight on the part of an engine driver, or some other cause, another train—which might be empty—is allowed to enter his section and is travelling at high speed towards the stationary train with apparently no time to avert a disaster with its appalling loss of life and the mutilation of many human beings.

It so happens however that by rapidly changing the points the signalman is able to divert the oncoming train on to a side line, where another train, containing a much smaller number of passengers, is standing. With great presence of mind he does this successfully. Although a number of lives are lost and injuries are caused directly by the deliberate act of the signalman a disaster of much greater magnitude is avoided. Would any sane man blame the signalman?

You doubtless see what I am getting at. Suppose now President Roosevelt was a God-fearing and conscientious man, as most fair-minded people think he was; and suppose, after profound consideration, he and his advisers, felt genuinely convinced that the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, although likely to result in an enormous number of casualties, would be the means of bringing the war with Japan to an abrupt conclusion, thus saving many times more lives than would be lost, would it not have been a load on the President's conscience if he failed to choose what he considered to be the lesser of two great evils, one of which was inevitable? Was he not in the same position as the signalman?

I should be interested to know how this particular point can be met.

F. J. BINDER

30 Kingsley Road,
Bedford.

"Trapped"—an answer

DEAR Françoise: It is a question of varying emphasis. There are so many cruelties and oppressions, and we emphasise those that we know best.

War, with all its horrors and deceptions, comes to an end. Dictatorships go on indefinitely. The millions in the forced labour camps for the unorthodox are continually recruited and only through some rare escape do we hear anything of their lives. It is this continuous destruction that I dread, as I think of some who have faced it and would far prefer death to being trapped into that torment again.

There our emphasis varies, and I think our only course is for each of us to fight against the evils he knows best, but at the same time try to realise the evils that he does not know so well.

HAROLD PICTON

177 Baldock Road,
Letchworth, Herts.

The choice

I BELIEVE that Françoise Delisle has got to the root of the matter in emphasising that it is better, even, to die at the hands of terrorists than to become one.

This is a point of view that has been politely ignored by the Church leaders who should now be proclaiming where they stand in this brutal conflict in Korea.

DENNIS BRIAN

24a Breakspere Road,
Brockley, S.E.4.

International lending

THE arguments advanced in the lucid survey, "Facts are Figures" August 15, regarding the disproportion between capital available for armaments and that for undeveloped countries may be usefully considered in conjunction with the report from Washington by Nora Beloff headed, "World Bank Critics to be heard" in the Observer of August 20.

It is stated by the critics that loans are made, not so much where the actual need is greatest, but where American investors are most interested and that protests are expected from Yugo-Slavia, as well as Asiatic and South American states on account of alleged discrimination.

D. E. MULLINS

Glastonbury, Somerset.

BBC television

THE BBC have adopted the motto on their plaque—"NATION SHALL SPEAK PEACE UNTO NATION"

How dare they prostitute such a phrase, when they devote their whole organisation to the support of wars.

FRANK BURGESS

Kings Heath, Birmingham.

(Continued on page seven.)

LETTERS

International help for children

WE all realise by now the damage done to children through hunger, physical disease and inadequate clothing. But do we equally realise the far greater damage done to their minds and spirits? Relief workers in post-war Europe could tell how quickly a child's body will recover from physical hurt, given good food and care. It is the horrors which these children have seen, the loneliness and insecurity of having their families and homes broken up and the distortion of their morals through being encouraged to kill and steal as part of patriotic sabotage which have made deep wounds that will take years to heal.

There is much we cannot do from outside but what we can do is to remind them, in words as well as in words, that they are not forgotten, indeed that we still care about them and are prepared to make sacrifices to give them back a sense of security, and, if we can, a faith in humanity.

International Help for Children has discovered that there are thousands of private families all over Europe who are ready and anxious to receive as guests the children of other countries who need a complete change, a holiday in a new air where they will find material help and affection.

And IHC has discovered something even more remarkable—that to bring one Greek, Italian or German child to Great Britain for a few months not only sends that child back to its home in strikingly better health both in body and mind, but also makes the

child's village or community feel that all of them have been remembered and helped by their friends abroad.

This, surely, is "United Nations" work which everyone can understand and take part in, and of more real and immediate value than years of propaganda and international conferences.

All contributions towards the continuation of this work will be most gratefully received and acknowledged by the Hon. Treasurer, International Help for Children, 43 Parliament Street, London, S.W.1.

MICHAEL LUBBOCK

(Chairman)

MARGARET M. McEWEN

JOHN BARCLAY

(Joint Secretaries)

International Help for Children,
43 Parliament Street, S.W.1.

The minority versus the majority

I FEEL convinced that the vast majority of people are not murderers at heart and do not want war; yet when a great war comes their attitude of mind and soul is unsought for and they are herded like sheep to the slaughter.

In my view, those chiefly responsible for all this agitation which is sweeping us onward towards another great world war will be found in a comparatively small minority of people consisting of armchair editors, politicians, ministers of religion and careerists in an official capacity behind the lines, whose opinions do not at all represent the feelings of the masses.

MANCHESTER'S PEACE PROCESSION

Top left: the brass band prepares to lead off the pacifist procession at Manchester on September 3. Ready to follow them are members of the Peace Pledge Union, The Society of Friends, The Fellowship of Reconciliation and other organisations.

Left Centre: A lorry bringing up the rear of the procession carries Gandhi's message, "He that is without hatred needs no sword." Other posters were, "The pen is mightier than the sword"; "His hope for the future depends on a world without war"; "Join the Peace Pledge Union"; "Force may subdue, but love gains"; "There must be one world for all of us or there will be no world for any of us."

Bottom: "Korea, there is a better way." and "Construction not Destruction," are among the messages the marchers carry on their way to the open-air meeting at Platt Fields.

I submit that if this small minority was compelled to be the first to go and fight there would then never be any more great catastrophes of such a nature.

WM. ATHERTON

7 William Street,
Lower Ince, Nr. Wigan.

War and Morality

ALL standards of morality have degenerated to such an extent that any recovery is doubtful until individuals can be guided back into situations where instinct does not drive them into callous or unthinking selfishness.

There has never been any lack, nor is there now, of mentors and exhorters of the bewildered and helpless individual. The babel which arises as a consequence only further confuses the few who retain some fleeting, conscious desire to play a part in the survival of decency in human relationships. Worse than that, insistence, against all historical evidence, that personal behaviour can regenerate public degeneration cannot carry conviction and simply defeats its own ends. This, if only for the reason that people who live in glass houses should not throw stones.

War, which is demonstrably responsible for the world-wide decline in morality, is essentially a public matter, not a personal one. Nor is it an American-way-of-life matter, nor a British, Russian, Chinese or Indian matter, but a public matter. Hence there can be no arrest of the decline in morality—no break in the vicious circle, if you prefer—until the abolition of war creates an atmosphere in which instinct can once more become healthy.

Since public matters are, of course, politics, though not, mark you, necessarily party politics, it follows that only in this field can a solution of the problem of war be found. Refusal to recognise that one particular political method has always succeeded wherever it has been adopted, and that no other way has ever led to any lasting contribution to the integration of the human family, is tantamount to assisting in the perpetuation of that national disunity which is basic in modern wars.

B. W. SIDWELL

114 Regent Street,
Nelson.

P.N. in Japan

I SINCERELY thank you for the following beautiful copies of Peace News, which donated to the Peace Library of the Kyoto Branch. It is indeed very nice of you to think of our work; I appreciate it very much. And I beg to assure you that these will be kept in good condition in our library.

We have many difficulties in our daily peace work at present, but we are always encouraged by your good will from across the ocean. Also we are always appreciat-

Up and doing!

Louder than words



Where to leave your Peace News! If you can afford the extra 3d. weekly, order an extra copy from your newsagent for this purpose, it will make Peace News more widely known and stimulate our trade sales.

Circulation last week 10,300

ing your printed matters which are very hard to get for us and very instructive for our work.

M. SADAYASU

Peace Library,
Seigen-in, Ryoanji-temple,
Ukyo-ward, Kyoto, Japan.

International pacifist weekly

MAY I say how much I have appreciated getting PN week by week during my time in India and Pakistan. I have felt very much in touch with events and, although PN is mainly preoccupied with matters in Europe, Africa and America, it does live up very well to its admirable sub-title of an international pacifist weekly.

GEOFFREY CARNALL

Friends' Centre,
1 Upper Wood Street, Calcutta.

Notes for your Diary

As this is a free service, we reserve the right to select for publication notices sent in. We nevertheless desire to make it as complete a service as we reasonably can, and therefore urge organisers of events to:

1. Send notices to arrive not later than Monday.

2. Include: Date, TOWN, Time, Place (hall, street); nature of event; speakers, organisers (and secretary's address)—preferably in that order and style.

Friday, September 15

LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m. 8 Endsleigh Gardens; Artist Problems Today; W. L. Smith, ex-student of the Slade, member of the artist group Communist Party; Central London PPU.

Saturday, September 16

SHEFFIELD: 3 p.m. Rydal, Snaithing; Rev. Clifford H. Macquire; Area Conference for South Yorks and North Derbyshire; For.

LONDON: 7 p.m. Friends Meeting House, Albert Rd., Ilford; Reginald Sorenson, MP; Public meeting; London Union.

LEEDS: 6:30 p.m. Garden Party at Fellowship House, St. Michael's Rd.; Sports, Competition, Dancing; Admission: Leeds Peace Council.

Sunday, September 17

FINSBURY PARK: 11 a.m. Open-air meeting; North London Region, PPU.

HYDE PARK: 7 p.m. Open-air meeting; PPU.

Monday, September 18

TOWER HILL: 1 p.m. Speakers: Jack Sutherland and Gwyneth Anderson; PPU.

Tuesday, September 19

LEEDS: 7.30 p.m. Carlton Hill Meeting; Leeds Central Committee meeting; All welcome; PPU.

Wednesday, September 20

HOLBORN: 7.30 p.m. Holborn Hall, 100 Strand; A New Approach to Peace; Speakers: Prof. Kathleen Lonsdale, FRS; The Golds Group.

BLITHELEY: Re-dedication service, Friends Meeting House, North St.; For.

Thursday, September 21

LONDON, W.C.2: 12.30 p.m. Lincoln's Inn Fields; Open-air Meeting; Rev. A. D. Belden, DD.

COVENTRY: 7.30 p.m. 3 South Avenue, Stoke Park; PPU.

Friday, September 22

LONDON, W.C.1: 7.30 p.m. 8 Endsleigh Gardens; Douglas Clark on "Arts and Letters"; Central London PPU.

Saturday, September 23

LEEDS: 7 p.m. At Will Groom's, 14 Leopold St., Off Chapeltown Rd.; Jumble Sale; 8 p.m.: Gramophone recital; Offers of help to S. N. Adams, 24 Primrose Lane, Leeds 11; Refreshments provided; No Conscription Council.

LONDON, W.C.1: 3 p.m. Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh St.; Meeting of Non-Violence Commission; H. S. L. Polak, co-worker with Gandhi; Subject: Mahatma Gandhi and Non-violence; All PPU members welcome; PPU.

LONDON, N.7: 2.30 p.m. North London Peace Centre (President: Bernard J. Boothroyd); Inaugural Garden Party at the Friends Meeting House, 404 Camden Rd. N.7; Music, Side-shows, Competitions; Admission 1s. Children with parents free.

Sunday, September 24

LONDON, S.W.1: 3 p.m. Westminster Abbey; Archdeacon Hartill preaches at evensong; Anglican Pacifist Fellowship.

FINSBURY PARK: 11 a.m. Open-air meeting; North London Region, PPU.

HYDE PARK: 7 p.m. Open-air meeting; PPU.

GLASGOW: 7 p.m. Brunswick Street; Open-air meeting; PPU.

Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 23 & 24

BIRMINGHAM: Weekend Youth Conference at Barnes Close, Lickey Hills, Nr. Birmingham; John Ferguson, M.A. and Max Parson on "Christ and Peace"; Chairman: The Rev. Clifford H. Macquire; For.

Monday, September 25

TOWER HILL: 1 p.m. Speakers: Jack Sutherland and Gwyneth Anderson; PPU.

Wednesday, September 27

LONDON: 7 p.m. St. Martin-in-the-Fields; Annual dedication service conducted by Prefabry B. C. Hooper, BA. and Rev. Clifford H. Macquire; For.

Thursday, September 28

LONDON, W.C.2: 12.30 p.m. Lincoln's Inn Fields; Open-air Meeting; Sybil Morrison; PPU.

Friday, September 29

LONDON, N.W.1: 7.15 p.m. Friends Meeting House, Euston Rd.; Meeting of Christian Witness against War.

Saturday, September 30

LONDON, W.C.1: 2.30 p.m. Dick Sheppard House 6, Endsleigh St.; Bernard Boothroyd on "The Outlook for Religious Pacifism"; Religious Commission of the PPU.

HIGH WYCOMBE: 3.15 p.m. Friends Meeting House 50 London Rd.; Area meeting followed by an address from Dr. Hilda von Klenze; Refreshment provided; PPU.

LONDON, N.W.1: 2.30-7.30 p.m. Friends House Euston Rd.; Half-day Conference: "Peace Making through Education"; Education Commission PPU; Tea Tickets 1s. 8d. from J. Burgess, 8 West St., Hertford.

LEICESTER: Friends Meeting House; Speaker: Archdeacon Hartill; Area Conference; For.

STOKE: 4 p.m. Church Institute; Speaker: Percy W. Bartlett; Area Conference; For.

WORTHING: 4 p.m. Methodist Church, Tarring Rd.; Speaker: Rev. Lewis MacLachlan; Area Conference; For.

Sunday, October 1

DORKING: 3 p.m. The Shippen, Pilgrims Way, Westhumble (near Box Hill); Speaker: Vera Brittain; Surrey Area PPU.

Huddersfield: One day school; Wilfred Wellock; Afternoon and evening sessions; Full details later; PPU.

FINSBURY PARK: 11 a.m. Open-air meeting; North London Region, PPU.

HYDE PARK: 7 p.m. Open-air meeting; PPU.

GLASGOW: 7 p.m. Brunswick Street, Open-air meeting; PPU.

Wednesday, October 4

MARGATE: 8 p.m. Pioneer Hall; Public Meeting on Foreign Policy; Chairman: Reg. Sorenson, MP; Speakers to be announced later; Labour Pacifist Fellowship and National Peace Council.

Friday, October 6

LONDON, W.C.2: 1.30-1.45, St. Martin-in-the-Fields; Intercession Service for Peace; The Rev. Alan Balding, APF, For.

Saturday, October 7

NOTTINGHAM: 3 p.m. Adult School Room, Friar Lane; Rev. D. Perry Jones on "Pacifism, the Way"; Secretary: Mrs. D. Brown, Hilbery, Tythbury Rd., Bingham, Notts; Area Conference For.

ST. ALBANS: 5.30 p.m. Friends Meeting House; Speaker: Rev. W. H. Foley; Area Conference; For.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY
LATEST TIME for copy: Monday before publication.

TERMS: Cash with order, 3d. per word, minimum 2s. 6d. (Box No. 6d. extra). Please don't send stamps in payment, except for odd pence. Maximum length: 50 words. Address for Box No. replies: Peace News, 3 Blackstock Road, N.4.

When corresponding with PN about an advertisement, quote its first words, classification, and date.

We reserve the right to hold over advertisements and to limit the frequency of continuing advertisements.

MEETINGS

WEIGH HOUSE Church, Duke Street, W.1. (Bond St. Tube). Sunday evenings at 7. The Gospel of Peace! Social hour follows.

ACCOMMODATION

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE. Vegetarian and diet reform. Others welcomed. Sea front, small village. Innisfree, St. Mary's Bay, Ashford, Kent.

BROMLEY, KENT. Select furnished S.C. flat, ground floor, detached house; 3 large rooms, all services, 24 hrs. 6d. p.w. Garage. Phone: RAV 3063 after 4.30 or write Box 210.

DERBYSHIRE HILLS, Vegetarian Guest House. Rest and comfort amid beautiful scenery. Arthur and Catherine Ludlow, The Briars, Crich, Near Matlock. Tel: Ambergate 44.

FURNISHED BED-SITTINGROOM with cooking facilities wanted immediately for woman student within easy reach Hornsey. Reply Sherwood, 10 Pycombe Corner, N.12.

WIDOW WITH son (four) requires accommodation furnished or unfurnished. North London. Box 208.

YOUNG MARRIED couple seek two or more furnished rooms in or near Bourne-mouth please. Also require employment. Both adaptable. Box 209.

PERSONAL

MARRIAGE BUREAU offers unrivalled personal service. Nation-wide clientele Mary Blair (Room 59), 147 Holborn, E.C.1

LITERATURE, &c.

QUAKERISM Information and Literature respecting the Faith and Practice of the Religious Society of Friends, free on application to the Friends' Home Service Committee, Friends' House, Euston Rd. London.

FOR SALE & WANTED

ECONOMY LABELS for re-using envelopes. Large, good quality, cheap; publishing Peace News. Post free, for 1s., 60; 1s. 9d., 100; 15s., 1,000. Also plain economy labels 1s., 100; 8s. 6d., 1,000 post free. Peace News, Ltd., 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

15 DOUBLE-SIDED Linguaphone records. Conversational Esperanto. Good condition. Offers to Box 207.

SITUATIONS VACANT

ACCOUNTS AND audit clerk required, experience not essential. Some travelling. Write stating age, etc., to Barlex, 3 Huggin Hill, E.C.4.

SITUATIONS AND WORK WANTED

GESTETNER DUPLICATING, every variety, Mabel Eyles, 395 Hornsey Road, London, N.19. ARC 1765/MOU 1701.

PACIFIST, AGED 27 (male), having left war potential now requires alternative work. R. F. Marshall 38 St. Maur Road, Fulham, S.W.6.

MISCELLANEOUS

BARGAIN IN Printing. 60 sheets private addressed pale blue notepaper; 40 envelopes to match. 3s. lot. Other lines equally cheap. S.A.E. for full list, Tullett, 95 Woolcombe Lodge Rd., Birmingham, 29.

WAR RESISTERS' International welcomes gifts of foreign stamps on undamaged air mail covers. Please send to WRI, Lansbury House, 88 Park Avenue, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, Middlesex.

WATCH AND clock repairs. Aubrey Brocklehurst, 77 Brent Way, Finchley, London, N.3. (Finchley 6450). Buyer of old gold and silver.

WOULD YOUR group like a speaker from the Caravan of East and West? Write 14 Lambs Close, London, N.9.

Essential Reading
for Active Pacifists

THE PPU JOURNAL

Monthly Fourpence

From Peace News, 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4, or your local PPU Group (Postage 1d.)

LIBERATION NEWS BRIEFS

THE South Korean Government is to conscript 150,000 men. Voluntary enlistment was abandoned because only 10,000 came forward.—Daily Mail, Sept. 6, 1950.

Last year 303,600 British conscripts registered for military service; 166,600 were posted to the Services during the year. Postings were: Navy, 8,100; Army, 115,400; RAF, 43,100.

Poland has increased the period of national service from 18 months to two years and lowered the call up age from 21 years to 20 so that this year two classes instead of one will be called up.—The Observer, Sept. 3.

The Belgian Ministry of Defence has announced that the period of conscription will be extended from one year to two years and that conscripts would eventually be called up at 19 instead of at 20.

Chinese munition workers have been asked by their union to step up production "to supply more weapons to the army for liberating Formosa."—New China News Agency, Peking.

American air forces destroyed the cathedral of Seoul after it was learned the Communists were using it as an ammunition dump, the Catholic propaganda Fides News Agency reported from the Korean front. Nuns of St. Paul de Chartres may have been killed during the bombing, it was stated.—Birmingham Mail, Sept. 5.

The Norwegian Red Cross has asked permission of their Government's Foreign Department to send an expedition of 40 persons to Japan to erect a camp for Korean refugees. The camp would hold 2,000 people.

In the hope of securing a home of their own in married quarters, a Manchester couple recently volunteered for the Air Force. They had been married since February and had not found a house, reported the Daily Mail.

"The United States now have a task similar to that of the Roman Empire, 2,000 years ago. They have to defend the territory now under their influence."—Herr Adenauer, Chancellor of Western Germany.

The office of the Argentine Pacifist Organisation "Pacifismo" was recently raided by the Peron police. The July issue of their monthly publication, which was about to appear, was confiscated, as well as all the office records. Nevertheless, "Pacifismo" will appear again.

The British-Soviet Friendship Society has been refused any further advertising space on London Underground and its current posters have been removed. The Society's posters read: "For peace, for trade, for friendship with the Soviet Union." The Society was told that its name, by itself, could be construed for political purposes and thus no further advertising could be accepted.

Lar Daly, a 38-year-old Chicago businessman has founded a "Christian" Action Party the aim of which is "War now with Red Russia." He has offered to fly over Moscow and drop an atom or hydrogen bomb on the Kremlin.

If you are in a house when an atomic bomb falls, the best place to be—as in the days of old fashioned air raids—is under the stairs! This is one piece of advice contained in the 450 page book on "The Effects of Atomic Weapons," published by the US Atomic Energy Commission.

Royston Frederick Cooper (aged 16), of Coldean Lane, Brighton, missing since Saturday when he left home for a walk on Sussex Downs, was found dead near Ditchling Beacon, apparently having trodden on a ground mine. The district was used as a military area in the war.—Birmingham Mail, Sept. 5.

West Indian to speak for World Government

Dr. Malcolm J. Mitchell of the West Indies is to speak at the Friends Meeting House, Derby Road, Watford, at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday Sept. 17, on World Government.

THE TOLDAS GROUP

(Inauguration of London Branch)

A NEW APPROACH TO PEACE

Speaker: Prof. KATHLEEN LONSDALE, F.R.S.

Chairman: Prof. CHARLES A. COULSON, F.R.S.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20th, 7.30 p.m.
at the
HOLBORN HALL, Grays Inn Rd., W.C.1

CHRIST & KOREA

THE MENACE OF WORLD WAR
FRIENDS HOUSE, EUSTON ROAD, N.W.1.

On Friday, September 29, 1950 at 7.15 p.m.
Chairman: Canon T. B. Scrutton, M.A.
Speakers: Dr. A. D. Belden, R. v. Arnold Bellwood, B.A., Ethel Mannin, Reginald Reynolds, Bunty Harman (representing young people).

What are you doing for peace?

CALL FOR A STOP WAR COUNCIL

AN organisation is to be introduced, known as the Stop War Council to sponsor the effective and total co-operation of all peace groups in Britain.

This is the constructive result of a meeting, held on July 18, under the title "Christ and Korea." A full report of this meeting, at Weigh House, appeared in the July 28 Peace News.

A further meeting was held on Aug. 18 at which the proposal for a Stop War Council was discussed. A resolution was passed which reads:

"That this meeting of Christians of various organisations calls upon all British peace societies to take urgent action to close their ranks into an ad hoc 'Stop War Council' to project a national campaign for the cessation of the Korean war and the prevention of world war."

The formation of this council will again be discussed, and action immediately taken, at a further meeting at 7.15 p.m. on Sept. 29 at Friends House, Euston Road.

All groups and societies are urgently requested to attend at that time and to join in the Stop War Council. Only by a total front can the peace movement in this country make itself effectively heard. The formation of this council is the most encouraging and hopeful idea in the peace movement today.

Peacemaking and Education

A CONFERENCE on "Peace-making in Education," will be held in Friends' House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1, on Saturday, September 30, arranged by the Education Commission of the Peace Pledge Union.

The conference is open to all who are interested. Speakers are Raymond O'Malley, Senior English Master, Dartington Hall; Anthony Weaver, Children's Social Adjustment; and a pacifist parent.

Florence Surfleet, author of "The Child in Home and School," "Personal Relationships," "The Psychology of Peacemaking," and other books, will be in the chair. Her recent article "Peace Making in Education," (Aug. PPU Journal) aroused widespread interest.

The conference will open at 2.30 p.m. and close at 7.30 p.m. Applications for tea tickets, 1s. 8d., should be made to Jane Burgess, 9 West Street, Hertford, Herts by Sept. 23 and accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

THE JOB OF A PACIFIST

To the Editor

AS one of the "Class Z" men who will not fight again I find the attitude of some pacifists a little strange.

My idea, in contrast with Bernard Withers (Peace News, Sept. 1), is to lay low and say nothing: not a brave action, but nevertheless I have sufficient respect for the inefficiency of the Air Ministry records to realise that I may be missed entirely.

But once found out as a militant pacifist, surely you do not take on non-combatant duties. By doing that you would release others for the fighting. To accept non-combatant duties is nonsensical: if you are a pacifist you must take no part in war whatever. But this requires courage. How many in uniform on the release train said they would never go back under any circumstances.

The job of a pacifist is to try to prevent fighting, and try to prevent others fighting. This is admittedly heading for treason. But for the pacifist, if he is going to have his life wrecked completely owing to a war, then he might just as well choose now exactly the position he should take up.

"ANOTHER CLASS 'Z' MAN"

Name and address supplied.

Have you enjoyed a holiday?

If so, please send donation to:
Patrick Figgis (25 Uphill Rd., N.W.7)
for the Orchard Holiday Home,
which provides holidays at reduced cost for Londoners with small incomes.

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TOM KEELL WOLFE

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Graduate of Edinburgh School of
Natural Therapeutics
21 Promenade, Cheltenham, Glos.

— PPU GROUP ASKS CHURCHES

THE Aylesbury Group of the PPU has been seeking support from local churches and twenty other organisations in the form of letters putting the pacifist point of view and asking for discussion and such action as may seem possible to these groups.

While the PPU Group is aware that few members of church congregations will be prepared to go the whole way with the PPU in its opposition to war in any form as a means of settling international disputes, the group is sure that they are all equally desirous of achieving a peaceful world and the consequent advancement of all mankind.

To this end, churches and other organisations are requested to consider what steps they can take to encourage a peaceful settlement of the present grave international crisis confronting us, which may otherwise involve the whole of civilisation in the horrors of a third world-war.

The Aylesbury Group does not, however, take a purely theoretical line. They ask that the organisations to whom these letters are addressed do all they can to secure an early end to the fighting in Korea. This, they think, requires the re-establishment of the full Security Council, including the representative of the Peking Government (already recognised by our own Government as the Government of China), which will have full authority to initiate peace negotiations.

Comments and suggestions are requested from the recipients of these letters, in order that they may be discussed as a guide to further action by the Aylesbury Group.

KOREA PETITION WINNING SUPPORT

PEACE PLEDGE UNION headquarters reports an encouraging response to the manifesto issued in support of those MPs in the House of Commons who are seeking a peaceful solution to the Korean conflict and the East-West deadlock.

Signatures so far received number 460, but many copies of the manifesto are still in circulation and a good total is confidently expected. They are arriving back at the rate of three or four a day.

In addition to PPU groups, many private individuals and a number of organisations which are not affiliated to the PPU have applied for copies of the manifesto.

One North London group member secured 13 signatures in one evening's door to door canvassing which included explaining that it was not a Communist-inspired campaign.

All readers of Peace News are urged to obtain copies and to get signatures to it from people who sympathise with its message, in order that the full strength of the Pacifist movement in this country can be gauged.

Write to PPU, Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, W.C.2., if you have not already done so, for your copy.

● COMMENTARY

(Continued from page two)

they have not done so. Instead, they have suggested that the Security Council should appoint a mixed Swedish-Indian commission of investigation.

There, too, a Mao Tse-tung representative will come into evidence, forming another contact, the ultimate significance of which transcends the specific task the commission will have to perform.

Pacifism is no longer ignored

IF we now look for an explanation of these hope-raising developments we shall find it in the clear, almost world-wide, manifestations of impatience with the ideas typified in General MacArthur's letter to the Veteran's of Foreign Wars meeting in Chicago, with the unfortunate publication of which our latest war scare started.

Pacifists can congratulate themselves on the fact that the deplorable indifference of the last few years to their efforts has come to an end. Not everyone who now shows an interest in PPU meetings will end up by becoming a true pacifist. But it is worth something not to be treated as remote dreamers, and the percentage of finally convinced adherents will stand in direct proportion with the clarity with which we present our case.

As the MacArthur letter was a challenge to the whole of the West's ideas of elementary justice, so is the insanity of all attempts to fight Communism by war a challenge to every thinking man and woman. And the challenge to the pacifist is that no better opportunity has ever been presented to him than the present of proving that only the total abolition of war can secure mankind's survival in civilised conditions.

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CAMPAIGN COLUMN

THE account of Bishop Barnes' lecture to the British Association (which I have not had an opportunity of reading in full) may bring some of us to re-examine our attitude to the taking of human life.

The Bishop, as a humane and far-sighted churchman, endeavouring to play his part as a world citizen as well as a Christian, distinguishes between the cruelty and waste inevitable in mass warfare, and the voluntary curtailment of human life by euthanasia and the prevention of birth by sterilisation. He distinguishes between the former and suicide on the grounds that euthanasia is decided upon in consultation with another person.

Is this, I wonder, where most readers of Peace News would draw this very difficult line?

The human, rational point of view of the Bishop draws its strength from the terrible facts of over-population and insufficient

GWYNETH ANDERSON

writes: "With the consent of the Peace Pledge Union's Campaign Committee, of which I am a member, Sybil Morrison has asked me to write this column during the two weeks of her belated and over-earned holiday. I don't know what she will think of the result and I hasten to say that both she and the Committee are not only not responsible for the views expressed but are ignorant of the choice of subject. If I don't hear from any of them in the meantime, I hope to fill this column again next week!"

food production. And whether such means as he advocates would be sufficient to close the gap is not, at present, what I am questioning.

But some pacifists, and I am one of them, tend to believe that there are realms where a full knowledge of the present facts and a genuine desire for the greatest good for all in the future, is insufficient as a guide for action. Human birth and death seem to me to be in these realms.

Birth is a mystery not fully accessible to our will and knowledge. It seems to me however reasonably it may be expected that a normal adult human being may be able to hand on the gift of life, given favourable conditions, this may not in fact happen, nor, if it does happen, can the time be chosen with certainty. But it is, without doubt, within our power to destroy life and, given the instruments, to choose our time. I, personally, would wish to renounce that power altogether, not only in relation to my enemy but also in so far as my own life and that of invalids and the unborn are concerned.

Rational foresight, it seems to me, has always had a good deal to say in favour of benevolent destruction. With what joyful self-confidence people feel that they can shape their doubtful means to their good ends! But may it not be that by death comes death and by life comes life, and can we be sure that the wheel set in motion may not go on turning? Like Lear's Fool I would rather let go my hold when it runs down a hill.

Fred Hoyle, in the series of science talks broadcast on Wednesdays in the Home Service, tells us that the state of creation is continuous and that the Universe has infinite life before it: "My Father worketh to this hour and I work." Dr. Barnes would perhaps tell me that I must not shut my part of the labour. I don't want to, but it does seem necessary to define the proper spheres of work and the relative skills.

Pacifist Labour Candidates

Two well-known pacifists, Robert S. W. Pollard and Alderman E. C. Redhead have been adopted as Labour candidates for Paddington South and Gillingham respectively, reports the LPP Bulletin.

Emrys Hughes, M.P.

writes every week in

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